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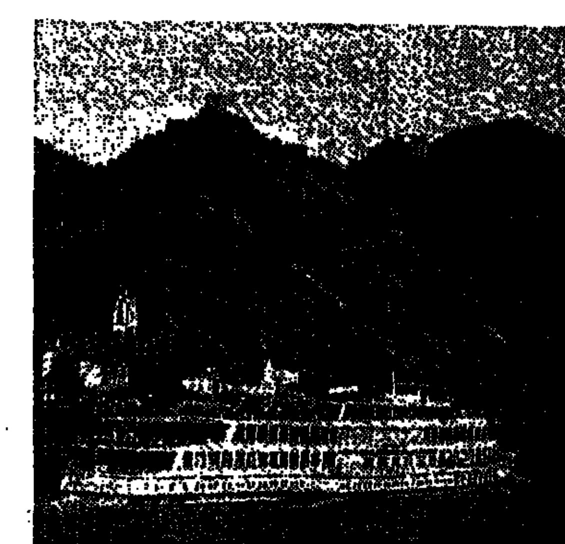


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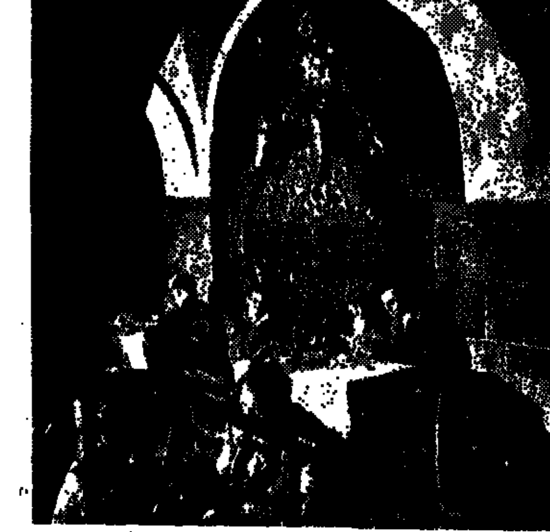


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Happy holidays in the Federal Republic of Germany 1972

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 12 October 1972
Eleventh Year - No. 548 - By air

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Tokyo reaches an agreement with communist China

Japan and China have made peace with one another – an extremely far-off, barely comprehensible event when viewed from Europe, where people seem for the most part to have forgotten that an era of hostility between the two major Asian powers has been drawing to a close.

Irreconcilable enmity has ruled the roost since 1931, when Japan embarked on its invasion of Manchuria. It was given a fresh *lease of life, as it were,* when America sided with Chiang Kai-shek in China after the war and lost.

Once America began to review its policy towards Peking Japan at long last also had an opportunity of changing its tune. Indeed, it had very little choice.

The diplomatic comings and goings of recent weeks have endowed a truly historic change with a sober and businesslike atmosphere.

Japanese Premier Kakuei Tanaka, who took over as Prime Minister only a few months ago, can count the conclusion of an agreement between Japan and the People's Republic of China on ending the state of war between them and establishing diplomatic relations as a major personal triumph.

Japan fares well by the terms of the agreement considering that it was the aggressor. Politely but rather distantly Japan concedes in the communiqué that it is fully aware of the enormous damage it imposed on the Chinese people during the war. So much for the millions of Chinese dead between 1931 and 1945.

In return for this admission of responsibility Peking has grandly agreed to forgo reparations payments by Japan.

China may have forgone reparations *but in return insisted on the sole right to* represent the Chinese people. Peking insisted on Japan breaking off relations with Taiwan, whereas Premier Tanaka seemed anxious not to sever his country's links with Chiang Kai-shek's island state, ties that have in the past been good for historical, political and strategic reasons.

On this issue Mr Tanaka had to make the more far-reaching concessions. In the joint declaration Tokyo embraced the Chinese view that Taiwan represents part of the territory of People's China and acknowledged the validity of the Potsdam Agreement providing for the return of Taiwan to the mainland.

This marked the end of diplomatic relations between Japan and Formosa. The Japanese embassy in Taipeh closed its doors the same day.

The Nationalist Chinese, who had threatened tough retaliatory measures in the event of Tokyo coming to terms with Peking, took care not to issue a final statement once the outcome of Premier Tanaka's talks was made public.

The breaking-off of trade between Taiwan and Japan, which is lucrative for both sides and could be continued regardless of diplomatic relations, would hardly be in Taipeh's interest, most raw and semifinished materials being imported from Japan.

The abrupt thaw in hitherto chilly relations between Peking and Tokyo has caused reflection in Japan as to why the Chinese have so suddenly changed their mind.

Until a matter of months ago the Chinese propaganda machine lambasted Japan as a power intent on expansion and a military colossus.

Japan's China-watchers are now agreed that the end of the Sato administration provided China with a welcome opportunity of launching the "smiling offensive" it had long since planned.

The Chinese government's volte-face tallies with a foreign policy of easing relations with the West in order to secure the Pacific flank in view of the growing Soviet threat to China's northern border. Japanese economic and technological assistance will also come in useful at home.

For their part the Japanese were more than willing to grasp China's outstretched hand. Ever since Peking's admission to the United Nations and President Nixon's visit to the Chinese capital Tokyo has been *worried lest it miss the boat to the*

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE



Booksellers' award

The Federal Republic's Booksellers Association awarded their Peace Prize to Janusz Korszak posthumously. Ernst Klett, president of the association handed the prize to Stanislav Rogelski (right) who heads the Polish Korszak Committee. Writer Dr Janusz Korszak died in Treblinka along with 200 Warsaw Ghetto orphans who were under his care. (Photo: dpa)

Bonn and Peking come to terms

The successful conclusion of talks between this country and China on the establishment of diplomatic relations between Bonn and Peking is a foreign policy feather in the Bonn coalition's cap.

In terms of election campaign efficacy it is admittedly marred by the fact that Christian Democrat Gerhard Schröder of the Opposition *laid much of the ground*work in the course of his visit to China.

China's readiness to establish diplomatic ties has left the ball in this country's court. Had Bonn not moved it would have laid itself open to suspicions of neglecting to extend its international relations out of consideration for the Soviet Union after having for so long neglected to do so out of consideration for the United States.

In the meantime the international political scene has undergone changes. President Nixon's visit to China gave the go-ahead to Bonn, which incidentally was the only Common Market country apart from Luxembourg that had yet to recognise Red China.

A factor that is of no mean importance is that this country remains Peking's largest trading partner in Western Europe.

For ideological reasons the Soviet Union cannot afford to air in public its uneasiness about the international upgrading of its Chinese rival. The Soviet Union has even welcomed the establishment of diplomatic ties between Tokyo and Peking, which can hardly be in the Kremlin's power-political interest, on condition that third parties do not suffer as a result.

By declaring its willingness to establish diplomatic relations with all countries desiring normalisation Bonn provided itself with a carte blanche for establishing ties with Peking.

Ever since Red China has been a permanent member of the UN Security Council Bonn's political interests, not to mention Moscow's, have been affected in that Peking could veto whenever it wanted the admission to the United Nations of the two German states.

The likely justification of a move of this kind, an explanation of which the Soviet Union could certainly not object to on ideological terms, would be that there is only one German state and that it is represented by the GDR.

Foreign Minister Walter Scheel of this country will be given the opportunity in the course of his forthcoming visit to Peking to clear up obstacles of this kind.

Another interesting aspect is the acknowledgement of Bonn's responsibility for West Berlin, a point on which Peking was prepared to make far-reaching concessions some years ago. This issue is being accorded kid-glove treatment at present, which on balance would seem to indicate that matters are proceeding well.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 30 September 1972)

Heinemann opens Frankfurt fair

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

President Heinemann, himself no youngster, delivered an address at the Frankfurt Book Fair that packed youthful challenge. He appealed to the older generation seated in its easy chair of selfsatisfaction to pay more attention to criticism rather than condemning it out of hand. This is doubtless sound advice but is it not a little one-side?

Is one seriously to excuse young people *their widespread tendency* to lack a *sense* of history by taking over lock, stock and barrel their primarily emotional and ideological view of history?

Is the course of history marked only by blood and tears? Are young people in their own way not guilty of a tendency to negligence in research and reflection in respect of the past that has much in common with what they accuse older people of in connection with the future?

For thousands of years young people have understandably been insisting on the right to live their own lives. All too frequently they are contemptuous of their elders and not only the content but also the form of the dialogue renders an exchange of views between the generations virtually impossible. Deaf ears are turned by all age groups. "We older people," Dr Heinemann cheerlessly commented, "no longer have offspring to follow in our footsteps." This is a sentiment that every generation can echo, but it remains truer now than ever before.

Yet there is no call for resignation. Older people have a right to expect their own sins not to be repeated, even though they seem to be no more than follies.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 2 Oktober 1972).

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Consequences of Premier Tanaka's visit to Peking

DIE ZEIT

At the grave of a fellow-member of the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party who used to advocate a change in the post-war relations between Tokyo and Peking Premier Kakuei Tanaka sought the moral fortitude he needed before setting out for China and bringing to an end an inglorious chapter in Japanese history.

He then indulged in golf practice to ease a stiff shoulder and, feeling much better, boarded the plane that four hours later set him down in Peking.

Seventy per cent of his fellow-countrymen watched him on television as he shook hands with Chou En-lai. This was twenty per cent more than had watched the opening ceremony of the Olympic Games.

More, of course, was at stake than gold medals. It was an act of reconciliation after forty years of enmity.

Two thousand years of cultural and historical mutual involvement had given rise to hopes among historically-conscious Japanese that the two countries might in future play a co-determinant role in Asia. Small wonder that they felt the meeting in Peking to be a historical turning-point.

The dreadful mistake that their militaristic forefathers made when, in 1931, they invaded Manchuria and participated in the exploitation of China by the "white devils" is being atoned for and can be forgotten.

The Japanese, particularly the conservative Liberal Democratic leaders, have not found it easy to decide on this gesture. In early July 1971 a number of politicians of the opposition Komeito Party forged initial contacts in Peking and were regarded as traitors by the Sato government.

Two weeks later President Nixon announced his intention of visiting the Chinese capital. The Japanese government then began to change its tune too. A few people started to demand that the government grasp the initiative. The Opposition parties lent them every encouragement.

They were joined by two major groups, the intellectuals and the majority of the Press.

As yet big business, the other major factor in Japanese public opinion, was none too keen on the idea, though. Most leading industrialists did not expect much to come of trade with mainland China whereas they had a sound economic basis in Formosa.

With their support the Sato administration decided, side by side with the United States, to vote in favour of Nationalist China retaining its seat in the UN.

The Formosa lobby was outvoted and People's China gained admission to the United Nations. Premier Sato's China policy was gone with the wind. Foreign Minister Fukuda, whom Eisaku Sato would have liked to be his successor, changed his tune too, but too late.

Industry too began to change its mind. Since spring 1971 Chou En-lai has insisted that Japanese firms come to a clear decision either for Formosa or for mainland China. Exporters to or investors in Chiang Kai-shek's Taiwan stood not a chance of doing business with the People's Republic.

Very few firms bowed to Peking's claim to the sole right to represent China. A good many more made their obeisances to the new UN member Peking. The ice was broken.

The hawks centred around Sato and Fukuda came to be a minority. The election of Mr Tanaka as the new Prime Minister symbolised the Liberal Democrats' decision to pave the way to Peking.

This reappraisal has not only paved the way to closer contacts with mainland China; it has also made a breakthrough for a new political awareness. Japan now proposes to pursue foreign policies of its own and reckons it is in a position to do so.

Kakuei Tanaka met Chou En-lai and other Chinese leaders on equal terms as a man on the lookout for partners. This style likewise characterised the meeting between Mr Tanaka and President Nixon in Honolulu.

Mr Nixon accepted this approach by meeting the Japanese Premier half-way – and not only geographically. America can only afford to scale down its commitments in Asia provided that a friendly and reliable great power takes over its key position there, albeit not necessarily in military terms.

Taiwan could hardly fail to feel badly let down again. Japan has never been able to lend Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek military assistance. It is now also depriving Nationalist China of the guarantees of protection ensuing from the stationing of US troops in Japan and Okinawa.

The US-Japanese security pact, on the basis of which America has the use of military bases in Japan, has changed considerably in significance now that Japan has reviewed its policy towards China.

The old Taiwan clause by means of which, as recently as 1969, Eisaku Sato linked Japan's security to military safeguards against China and North Korea for Formosa and South Korea has been consigned to oblivion in Mr Tanaka's talks with President Nixon and Premier Chou En-lai.

Formosan independence, possibly now no more than a step on the road to gradual non-violent assimilation with the People's Republic of China, is no longer ensured by the presence of American troops. All that remains is the economic investment made by the United States and other non-communist countries.

Mr Tanaka's visit to Peking has opened mainland China's door to Pacific Asia. Peking can now develop political activity there and is no longer dependent on the backdoor of Indo-China.

Japan of course must show signs of activity in the Far East itself in order to safeguard its own interests, which in the past have been looked after by America.

Asia for the Asians does not mean that all Asian countries will soon be the masters of their own fates, but internal developments and foreign relations may, for the first time since the sixteenth century, no longer be determined by the West.

Peter Krebs

(Die Zeit, 29 September 1972)



Heinemann in Switzerland

Federal Republic President Gustav Heinemann paid a three-day official visit to Switzerland accompanied by his wife Hilda. Foreign Minister Walter Scheel and his wife accompanied the presidential party. At Berne airport the visitors were welcomed by the President of the Swiss Confederation, Nello Celio and his wife. (Photo: dpa)

Bonn-Peking agreement

Continued from page 1

Chinese mainland, its enormous market and its reserves of raw materials.

For years the mass media in Japan have encouraged public euphoria about China and this campaign was moving steadily towards a climax.

Feelings of cultural and racial proximity to neighbouring China were not alone in fostering this trend. The Japanese also realised that they had a lot to answer for from the war years.

The next six months will show whether Japan's China boom will prove a lasting phenomenon. There are many signs that a more sanguine approach will soon put in an appearance. Traditional mistrust is not far below the surface.

The political interests of the two most powerful countries in Asia are at odds in South-East Asia and Korea. Japan, which is steadily gaining in self-confidence, will hardly be satisfied with a role as China's junior partner.

In the course of his talks in Honolulu and Peking Premier Tanaka made it clear that he has no intention of parting company with the West.

Japan's strategic dependence on the United States as evidenced by the US-Japanese security pact will continue for some time to come. This does not preclude the possibility of a more independent stand by Tokyo in relation to Washington, though.

Fred de La Trobe

(Die Welt, 30 September 1972)

Japan and the United Nations

Toru Nakagawa, Japan's chief delegate at the United Nations, has again called for a review of the UN Charter. The Japanese demands include, of course, the abolition of the enemy-state clauses 53 and 107, which are directed against Japan and Germany in the main.

More important, though, the Japanese proposals are aimed at boosting the position of the Secretary-General, imposing limits on the veto rights of permanent members of the UN Security Council, these being the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France.

Tokyo would also like to increase the number of permanent members of the Security Council to six, including itself.

Japan first came forward with proposals of this kind two years ago. Eisaku Sato, at that time Japanese Prime Minister, was in New York for the twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations of the United Nations and delivered a little-heeded

Süddeutsche Zeitung

speech in which he staked out Japan's claim to a world power role within the framework of the UN. This claim has been repeated at regular intervals ever since.

Amendments to the UN Charter require the agreement of two thirds of the member-countries eligible to vote and must include the five permanent members of the Security Council. They are thus difficult to bring about.

It may seem premature for one of the wartime powers whose militaristic ambitions led to the establishment of the United Nations to be now engaged in an attempt to gain great-power status within the UN.

Yet Japan, were it to succeed, would be the only permanent member of the Security Council owing its status not to military but to economic power. The five current permanent members of the Security Council are all nuclear powers. The Japanese, on the other hand, have committed themselves to a policy of nuclear abstinence.

Were this undertaking to be taken at face value and Japan to be awarded a permanent seat on this basis its ambitions would have been satisfied for the time being and a number of neighbouring countries would sleep more easily.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 28 September 1972)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke. Managing Editor: Otto Heinz. Editor: Alexander Anthony. English language sub-editor: Geoffrey Penny. – Distribution Manager: Georgine von Platen. Advertising Manager: Peter Boeckmann.

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Schoene Aussicht, Hamburg 76. Tel.: 2 20 51. Telex: 02 14733. Bonn bureau: Konrad Kadlubowski, 56 Adenauerallee, 53 Bonn. Tel.: 22 61 53. Telex: 08 86398.

Advertising rates list No. 10 – Annual subscription DM 25.

Printed by Krögers Buch- und Verlagsdruckerei, Hamburg-Blankenese. Distributed in the USA by: MASS MAILINGS, Inc. 540 West 24th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE reprint are published in cooperation with the editorial staffs of leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. They are complete translations of the original text, in no way abridged nor editorially redrafted. THE GERMAN TRIBUNE also publishes a Quarterly Review and a Supplement, articles selected from German periodicals.

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COMMON MARKET

Norway's *No* to the EEC is not a disaster for Europe

The Ten are not to be and instead of extending from the boot of Italy to the North Cape the Common Market will now stretch from Sicily to Jutland. If the Danes follow Norway's example the Common Market will indeed extend only as far as Schleswig-Holstein, its present border.

At the Western European summit in Paris a maximum of nine heads of government will convene. The Norwegian electorate has put an end to the prospect of Premier Trygve Brattell coming down from Oslo.

Actions speak louder than words and the result of the 25 September Norwegian referendum on the Common Market shows that Norway has chosen to steer clear of major political developments in Europe. Chosen is the operative word, though; this will have been the express intention of most of the Norwegian voters who said no to the European Economic Community.

It is, of course, up to the Norwegians themselves whether they want to participate in endeavours to bring about European integration or not. At the same time the other nine countries involved have every reason to regret Oslo's no.

For one it is a matter of the northern flank of the Atlantic alliance. The decision not to join the Common Market does not represent a vote against Norway's membership of Nato, though.

Some of the opponents of Common Market membership will have been Nato supporters who are worried lest the decision to join might upset relations with the United States.

Yet membership of the EEC would have consolidated Norway's links with Western Europe. The Common Market countries would have increased commitments to Oslo and any attack on Norway would be a riskier enterprise for a potential aggressor.

In Murmansk, only a few miles from the Norwegian border, the Soviet Union has in recent years built up the world's most intensive military emplacements.

It could well be that a Norwegian government with no firm economic and political ties with Western Europe would, in the long term, opt for neutrality with all that would entail for the balance of power in Central Europe.

The second problem as far as Brussels is concerned is the possible repercussions on other prospective members of the Common Market. A week after the Norwegian referendum the Danes were also to go to the polls and although last-minute opinion polls seemed to indicate that pro-Marketeers were slightly in the lead the Norwegian vote might swing the balance.

The enlarged Common Market would then consist of eight members only and even that would not be a certainty as anti-Marketeers are closing ranks in Britain again. The trade unions are stiffening their opposition and trying to commit Opposition leader Harold Wilson to a firm anti-Market line.

Britain's decision to join has been approved by Parliament and the result of the Norwegian referendum can no longer affect the issue.

Luckily the rearrangement of, say, voting rights and EEC finances necessitated by Norway's non-entry can be decided unanimously by the Brussels Council of Ministers. Further parliamentary debate in individual member-countries is no longer needed.

Legal considerations of this kind cannot, however, dispel anxiety lest the outcome of the Norwegian referendum strengthen the hand of British opponents of the Common Market.

Following a change of government in Whitehall the anti-Market lobby could force Harold Wilson to call Common Market membership into question and that would have catastrophic consequences for the cohesion of the Community.

No one in Brussels is happy about the Norwegian no, yet despite their regret many Common Market Europeans are to a certain extent relieved. On 1957 when the EEC was established there was a firm majority of the electorate in all member-countries in favour of European cooperation.

The member-governments of the Six were able to base their European integration policies on this fund of goodwill. This support is not forthcoming in Norway. Now in a democracy it is often neither here nor there how narrow a majority has been. Once the decision to join is made it is irrevocable.

But membership of thy Common Market is not the final accomplishment; it is only the beginning. From one day to the next member-governments are called on to take on fresh European commitments.

Should one country's hands be tied because of domestic opposition to the Common Market this one country is bound to have a paralysing effect on cooperation between the others.

In the wake of the Norwegian referendum one ought really to ask whether it is not as well that a country split down the middle over the question of Common Market membership is to stay out. It could be as well for future developments in Europe, moreover, that Norway as a country with a number of special problems of a geographical and sociological nature is, for the time being, out of the running.

A large EEC is clearly more impressive in political terms than a six- or eight-member Community, but size is not everything.

What point is there in the Common Market extending to the North Cape when the domestic problem of a number of member-countries render the EEC even more immobile than it already is?

Sad though the outcome of the Norwegian referendum may be, there is no call to consider it a European catastrophe now that a doubting Thomas has decided not to join.

Thomas Löffelholz

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 September 1972)

Oslo's final word has not yet been spoken

The victory of Norwegian anti-Marketeers in the EEC referendum is a defeat not for Europe but for Norway, the majority of whose electorate cannot have been aware of the consequences of their decision.

Despite the outcome of the referendum the final word has yet to be spoken. It has merely been postponed until such time as common sense and reflection come to replace hatred and bitterness.

When this time will come remains to be seen. Nothing would be wronger than to let the Norwegians stew in their own juice at this juncture, though. This would tend to stiffen oppositon, which is the reverse of what is called for.

The majority Norwegian decision can most easily be compared with past history, which in Norway's case is rather different from historical developments in Denmark and Sweden.

For nearly 400 years, up till 1814, Norway was ruled by Denmark, a period known in Norway as the long night. When the long night came to an end and independence seemed round the corner Swedish troops marched in to ensure that the terms of the Treaty of Kiel were adhered to.

The only change for Norway was that the country was governed from Stockholm rather than from Copenhagen. Not until 1905 did Norway gain full independence and the Norwegians are understandably jealous of their national privileges.

The anti-Market lobby preyed on people's anxiety. It proved only too easy to convince older people that their life's work was at stake and that a country flourishing as a result of their hard work was on the point of being forced into a new union and again subjected to arbitrary decisions by foreigners.

Seldom has the ignorance of large sections of a populace in respect of the situation in Europe been so outrightly exploited. Norway's geography and the fact that only 2.6 per cent of the country's surface area can be used for agricultural purposes also played their part in widening the gap between Norway and the Continent.

In view of the circumstances under which the Nordic Council evolved it is hardly surprising that the Scandinavian countries have failed even to establish a customs union.

Many Norwegians react allergically to the slightest inroad into their relatively recent sovereignty or to anything they consider to represent such an inroad. Norwegian Premier Trygve Brattell, who resigned as a consequence of the referendum, has left behind a confused political situation. Himself a convinced European, Brattell has had to concede that a majority of his fellow-countrymen would for the time being prefer to remain on the sidelines under the impression that they can manage quite well by themselves.

Brattell is not the man to give up without a struggle, though. He will continue to do what he considers best for his country with the same perseverance with which he has endeavoured to gain membership of the Common Market for Norway.

Hans Thi

(Kieler Nachrichten, 27 September 1972)

Norway's rejection may lead to beneficial self-criticism

The majority of Norwegians who went to the polls voted against joining the EEC, against "Brussels". Their "no" to Europe comes as a blow, but it is an ill wind that brings no one any good.

Maybe Norway's "no" will lead to beneficial self-criticism within the Common Market, with which the rest of the world has a love-hate relationship.

Already people in Brussels are wondering whether the Common Market might not have made a mistake of some kind or other.

Did the entry talks in the summer of 1970 really have to begin with the Six's hard-line decision on the unfortunate fishery regulations? Did the EEC have to mount its high horse and refuse point blank to enter into the negotiations requested?

It is not a question of there being a feeling in Brussels that a defeat has been sustained. Business will go on as usual. The EEC will manage.

It has been more like an important examination in which all concerned have done their level best – not only the examinee but also the invigilators.

Everyone had hoped that the candidate would pass but somehow he failed. Afterwards the examiners ruefully comment that really they had known all along that they had set the wrong candidate the wrong exam.

What now? There is no call for alarm. Technically and economically in the narrower meaning of the term the upset can be repaired – in any case for the Common Market and for Norway too.

Norway, should it wish to do so, can be included among those countries with which, starting next year, the EEC will be linked by means of free trade agreements. At a later date there will no longer be aluminium tariffs and quotas in Europe and many people feel that agreement of this kind will prove more satisfactory for Norway than membership of the European Community.

Two political developments are conceivable. Norway's decision could set a trend in Denmark, Britain and even Switzerland. At a later stage the Norwegians could part company with the West politically and leave Nato.

Talk of the northern flank of Europe being unprotected is more than empty phraseology. The Finlandisation of the whole of Scandinavia as a subsequent development is a worrying prospect.

The other possibility would be more gratifying. Were the Danes to join the Common Market and the Norwegians to reconsider their decision once they had seen that the EEC does not shackle and fetter smaller countries everyone would be happier.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 September 1972)

No alarm for Nato with Norway's *No*

Norway's "No" to the Common Market has been loud and clear. Western European integration will not suffer an irreparable setback as a result, though. British membership of the EEC, the major factor in the proposed enlargement, can neither legally nor politically founder on the outcome of the Norwegian referendum.

Britain has taken good care to ensure that the Norwegian "no" provides no opportunity of reviewing Whitehall's accession to the Treaty of Rome. London was more realistic than, say, Bonn in reckoning with the possibility of Norway rejecting the entry terms.

At the headquarters of the EEC Commission in Brussels it is felt to be more likely than ever that the Danes too will vote against the Common Market. The two countries have close trading and other co..acts.

So it is that the Common Market is expected to be an eight-member grouping rather than the Ten. Some observers are not dissatisfied with the trend. In Paris and London the powers that be were well aware that it would not be easy to cope with the tasks in hand in common with Norway and Denmark too – and the political and military integration of Western Europe is an urgent necessity in view of the possible withdrawal of the United States from Europe.

The consequences for Scandinavia are easily imaginable. Finnish advocacy of neutrality and the possibility of closer ties with Comecon will prove a more tempting proposition than hitherto. Both the EEC and Nato are afraid that it might not be long before both Norway and Denmark pull out of Nato too.

In order to safeguard Nato's northern flank economic gestures will be made that are worth Oslo's and Copenhagen's while. Providing both rise to the bait the outcome of the Norwegian referendum need not give rise to undue alarm.

Hermann Bohle

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 27 September 1972)

■ KARL SCHILLER

Resignation has hit SPD-FDP coalition where it hurts

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Karl Schiller, it seems, still has political ambitions. If he had wanted to leave the political arena altogether and spend a few influential and lucrative years in industry, he would never have announced his resignation from the SPD right at the opening of the election campaign.

Neither would he have made a point of stressing that he would continue to work "outside the party" for those principles he believes govern economic and financial policy. Karl Schiller is still a force to be reckoned with. Only the form his political activity will take is not yet known.

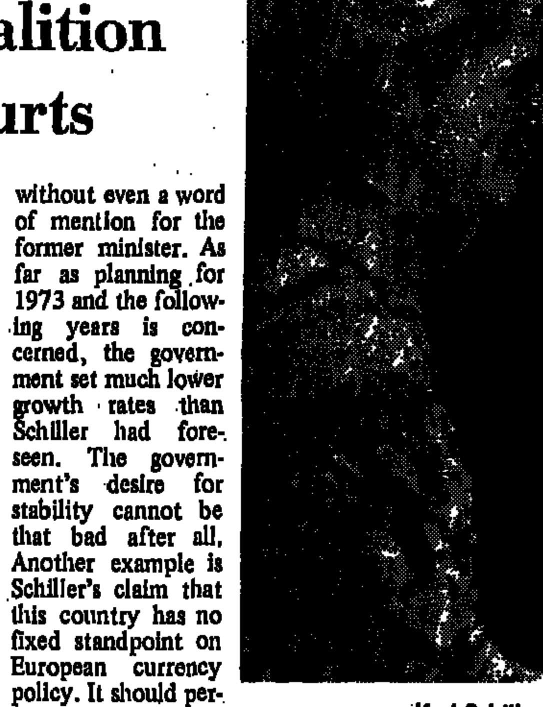
It would not only have run contrary to his intentions had he quietly resigned from the party and allowed the public to draw its own conclusions – it would also have been in complete contrast to his personal style.

As eloquent as ever, the former minister has explained his actions at length. Everybody was to know just what led Schiller to make a decision that no longer came as a surprise.

The Schiller document is a burden on the SPD-FDP coalition. It will be quoted extensively during the election campaign – that was of course its purpose. The SPD and FDP will not be able to dismiss his statement as a result of bitterness. As much as Schiller has strained the public's patience in recent months with his both nervous and carefully thought out manoeuvring, he deserves that his views should be taken seriously.

Schiller claims in his statement that we are as far removed as ever from an economic and financial policy aiming at stability. He cites budget plans for 1973 and the medium-term financial planning up to 1976 but does not mention that the Cabinet complied right down to the smallest detail with the demands he himself made in May – a 2.5 milliard Mark cut in this year's government spending.

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(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 September 1972)

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(Frankfurter Rundschau, 26 September 1972)

■ SOCIAL SECURITY

Pensions reform could be expensive

Süddeutsche Zeitung

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But father Arendt had already had to do what fathers often do – take the child's side and at the same time try to cure its faults. The pensions reform passed unanimously by the Bundestag does not comply with the original ideas of Arendt and the SPD-FDP coalition.

It is therefore no surprise that the CDU/CSU has claimed responsibility for the pensions reform – though it must also be stated here that the Opposition would have preferred to see it in a different guise.

The political paternity case now being conducted within the election campaign could only confirm what neutral observers have long considered obvious – there has been an interplay of action and reaction between the governing coalition and Christian Democratic Opposition on pensions policy.

If the CDU/CSU had not been so insistent there would have been no 9.5 per cent rise in pensions backdated to 1 July 1972. On the other hand the voluntary retirement age would not have been introduced had it not been for the governing coalition.

But what was originally seen as an alternative – either an increase in the general level of pensions *or* the introduction of a voluntary retirement age – was almost automatically combined when the coalition's majority disappeared, an early general election was in the air and the amount of money available increased.

The fact that many important details of the new pensions reform law bear the stamp of the CDU/CSU because of their majority of one vote seems incongruous in view of previous developments.

This is why SPD and FDP politicians are stressing the part they played in getting the law on the statute book and not making much mention of the problems that could be involved in financing it.

Will the pensions reform law prove a threat to financial policy? Many sceptics in Bonn believe that the public could in the foreseeable future be condemning a law they now applaud.

Indeed it cannot be ruled out that the price fixed today for pensions reform could rise sometime in the future. No accurate forecasts can be made because, for example, there is no guide to the number of people who will retire at an earlier age thanks to the new law.

Looking at pensions reform as a whole, the observer will gain the impression that payments will not exceed the limit set for increases up to 1986 (185 milliard Marks) if all the rational assumptions are proved right.

Some factors should not be seen out of their context. The whole financial reckoning will only work out if there is full employment *in the next fifteen years.* It is also a fact the government subsidies to pensions insurance schemes form an important element in financing pensions even if they are not formally set aside for this purpose. This point shows the considerable financial risks that exist.

The government is already in no position to fulfil its obligations to the organisers of pensions insurance schemes by making cash payments. But this has not yet affected the solvency of pensions insurance.

But what will happen if cash payments are indispensable and, as in 1967, the gradually increasing subsidies have to be limited for budgetary reasons?

It must also be assumed that the war victim pensions will be increased and back-dated in the near future. This will put a strain on the budget and increase the tendency to limit subsidies.

As far as pensions insurance itself is concerned, sickness insurance for pensioners is proving to be in real need of reform as the medical insurance schemes covering it are obviously overburdened.

It would therefore have been perfectly justified to divert a portion of the "excess milliards" into the sickness insurance scheme for pensioners. As this was not done, people will soon be asking who will suffer from the reform.

Politicians obeying the principle that the contributions rate to pensions insurance schemes should never rise above eighteen per cent (between 1927 and 1942 it stood at five per cent) will prefer it to be financed via the sickness insurance contribution.

But it is almost exactly the same group of contributors who would be affected. And the same question can be asked in both sectors – why have payments been increased even though the old system was not adequately financed?

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(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 23 September 1972)

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Incomes must rise by more than eight per cent a year up to 1975 and then by at least six per cent a year until 1986 if contributions alone are to finance the pensions reform package with its expenditure of between 165 and 170 milliard Marks up to 1986.

Only a relatively small divergence from this economic pattern would shatter the whole pensions structure. It only needs the number of employed to be cut by a million – for instance by a drop in the number of foreign workers who, it must not be forgotten, also pay contributions – and the politicians' plans will be ruined.

Drastic measures would then be called for. There might even have to be a further increase in contributions over and above the eighteen per cent demanded from 1 January 1973 onwards.

At present there is no reason to fear that the Bundestag members responsible for social welfare policy have made a mistake in their calculations and refuse to admit it because of the forthcoming election.

But some warning must be made against treating pensions insurance as some suddenly discovered cornucopia for the good of all pensioners and citizens who one day hope to be able to live off a pension. Every Mark paid out in pensions has to be raised through contributions or State subsidies.

Problems caused by new pensions legislation

Despite all the caution employed, the pensions reform will probably have to be continued in a few weeks' time. This appears necessary because of a mistake that crept in when planning small pensions.

It is social benefit that is at the centre of the issue. Many small pensioners who can now look forward to a large increase in the amount of money they are paid run the risk of having their supplementary benefit cut or completely taken away.

The CDU/CSU has therefore proposed that half of the increased small pensions



should not be reckoned up along with supplementary benefit. It would indeed be stupid to give small pensioners extra money with the one hand only to take away their supplementary benefit with the other.

But the Bundestag Committee for Youth and Family, the body which examined this section of the CDU/CSU Bill, was unable to finish its work. The new Bundestag will therefore have to accept an amendment right away if the socially underprivileged sections of the population (and no other sections receive supplementary benefit) are not to be put at a disadvantage.

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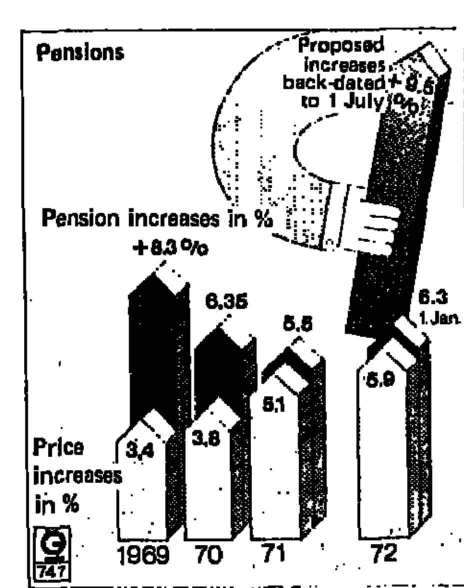
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(F[illegible] 1972)



Improvements for pensioners

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

The far-reaching pensions reform legislation passed by the Bundestag on 21 September means a number of changes as far as pensioners and people still at work are concerned.

The ten million or so pensioners will receive increases of 9.5 per cent backdated to 1 July. The next increase will follow on 1 July 1973.

The pensions insurance scheme will be open to all sections of the population under the new law. Contributors can either decide themselves how much they pay and lose the right to claim for those periods when no contributions are paid or they can enter the compulsory scheme under which contributions are calculated according to income. Contributions can be backdated to 1956. The condition of five years compulsory insurance cover before taking out an extra insurance policy is scrapped.

From 1 January 1973 those persons insured under the State pensions scheme will be able to retire at 63 – after 35 years of contributions – and draw a standard pension.

If they do not take advantage of this voluntary retirement age and continue working, their pension increases by five per cent a year between the ages of 63 and 67 plus the normal annual rise of 2.5 per cent.

After 25 years of compulsory insurance pensions are calculated according to minimum incomes. The 25 years includes periods of national service when contributions could not be paid but excludes the amount of time spent in training.

When calculating the amount of pension it will be assumed that lower wage-earners covered by the scheme earned 75 per cent of the average income of all those persons insured (at present about 1,300 Marks a month).

For example, under the present situation a person in the 55 per cent category would have had a pension of 206 Marks next year. Under the recent reform he will receive 298 Marks – 17 Marks of which is due to the back-dated increase.

After thirty years it would have been 248 Marks under the present system compared with the future 358 Marks (twenty Marks backdated), after 35 years 289 Marks instead of 417 Marks (23 Marks backdated) instead of 476 Marks (26 Marks backdated).

Linking pensions with the standard of living is meant to guarantee that a person covered by the scheme will receive after forty years a pension amounting to fifty per cent of the comparable gross income.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 September 1972)

■ KARL SCHILLER

Resignation has hit SPD-FDP coalition where it hurts

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Karl Schiller, it seems, still has political ambitions. If he had wanted to leave the political arena altogether and spend a few influential and lucrative years in industry, he would never have announced his resignation from the SPD right at the opening of the election campaign.

Neither would he have made a point of stressing that he would continue to work "outside the party" for those principles he believes govern economic and financial policy. Karl Schiller is still a force to be reckoned with. Only the form his political activity will take is not yet known.

It would not only have run contrary to his intentions had he quietly resigned from the party and allowed the public to draw its own conclusions – it would also have been in complete contrast to his personal style.

As eloquent as ever, the former minister has explained his actions at length. Everybody was to know just what led Schiller to make a decision that no longer came as a surprise.

The Schiller document is a burden on the SPD-FDP coalition. It will be quoted extensively during the election campaign – that was of course its purpose. The SPD and FDP will not be able to dismiss his statement as a result of bitterness. As much as Schiller has strained the public's patience in recent months with his both nervous and carefully thought out manoeuvring, he deserves that his views should be taken seriously.

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Politicians specialising in questions of social welfare will be anything but underworked in months to come. But they must not take too much time. Some problems must be solved quickly to avoid discord.

Roland Müller

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 25 September 1972)

Pensions

Proposed increases back-dated to 1 July + 9.5 %

Pension increases in %

+8.3 %

6.35

5.5

6.3 1 Jan.

Price increases in %

3.4

3.8

5.1

5.9

1969 70 71 72

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From 1 January 1973 those persons insured under the State pensions scheme will be able to retire at 63 – after 35 years of contributions – and draw a standard pension.

If they do not take advantage of this voluntary retirement age and continue working, their pension increases by five per cent a year between the ages of 63 and 67 plus the normal annual rise of 2.5 per cent.

After 25 years of compulsory insurance pensions are calculated according to minimum incomes. The 25 years includes periods of national service when contributions could not be paid but excludes the amount of time spent in training.

When calculating the amount of pension it will be assumed that lower wage-earners covered by the scheme earned 75 per cent of the average income of all those persons insured (at present about 1,300 Marks a month).

For example, under the present situation a person in the 55 per cent category would have had a pension of 206 Marks next year. Under the recent reform he will receive 298 Marks – 17 Marks of which is due to the back-dated increase.

After thirty years it would have been 248 Marks under the present system compared with the future 358 Marks (twenty Marks backdated), after 35 years 289 Marks instead of 417 Marks (23 Marks backdated) instead of 476 Marks (26 Marks backdated).

Linking pensions with the standard of living is meant to guarantee that a person covered by the scheme will receive after forty years a pension amounting to fifty per cent of the comparable gross income.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 September 1972)

■ ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

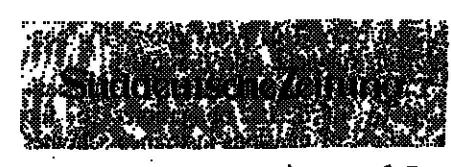
20th anniversary of Coal and Steel Community

Luxembourg's New Theatre was on 19 September the scene of a celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the beginnings of economic integration in Western Europe. Taking part in the twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the Coal and Steel Community were Grand Duke Johann of Luxembourg, the head of the Luxembourg government Pierre Werner, the first President of the Senior Authority of the Coal and Steel Community, Jean Monnet, and the President of the European Parliament, Walter Behrendt.

The Community was formed in 1952 on the basis of a plan put forward by the then French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman and France, the Federal Republic, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg joined.

Robert Schuman approached the French national assembly on 9 May 1950 with the idea of merging the heavy industry of the Federal Republic and France. He said he wanted to "alter the image of those areas which have been used for a long time to produce armaments and which became the most devastated victims of those armaments."

Apart from the idea that economic integration would be a boost to productivity in Western Europe there was the ulterior motive of imposing a kind of



control on the industrial areas of Germany, a control that up till then had been exercised by the victorious powers.

The French government suggested that the entire coal and steel production of the two countries should be subjected to a joint High Authority — an organisation that would be open to other European countries to join if they so wished.

The governments of the Federal Republic, Italy and Benelux wasted to time in expressing their approval. But Great Britain vacillated, and it has taken her twenty years to catch up and join in with the process of integration, which has now developed into a wide-ranging economic community.

In the ten months between June 1950 and April 1951 the treaty for the formation of the "European Community for Coal and Steel" was negotiated and signed. It came into force on 25 July 1952. On 10 August that year the high authority began its work in Luxembourg, the first European institution with a supra-national look.

One member of the nine-man board was Albert Coppé, one of the two Belgians. Today he is still working on the Commission of the European Communities, which swallowed up the high authority in 1967. In a recent interview with *La libre Belgique* he said: "At first it was remarkable to be working on a body of nine men and not to know the others. But there was a clear recognition by all concerned that the solutions that must be found should be essentially community solutions."

Coppé sums up the original nine-man board thus: the most phlegmatic was the Italian, the most explosive the Dutch representative, the most taciturn was the Frenchman — Jean Monnet, the first President never did speak excessively — and the most obliging was the German.

The history of the Coal and Steel Community has shown how with time tasks in hand change. The original idea of keeping a tight rein on the Federal Republic's armaments potential was pushed more and more into the background. Mighty social problems arose and six years after the foundation of the Coal and Steel Community we were faced with a monumental crisis in the coalmining industry.

Obviously the new developments in fuel and power had been entirely misjudged by the coal and steel authorities which went on making lavish investments in coalmining, even though at Borinage in Belgium and in the Sardinian mines the signs of imminent crisis were becoming clearer all the time.

Following the Suez Crisis in 1956 the first of the new supertankers were constructed at Kiel and a new era in fuel and power had dawned.

Long time supply contracts from the United States became an expensive embarrassment as the essential streamlining and closures in Europe were carried out with the minimum of hardship for miners and their families.

In the mid fifties there were about 750,000 miners in Europe. Now there are about 433,000. In 1959 the High Authority carried out an extensive programme of rationalisation and regional restructuring.

By the end of 1971 the Community had spent 571 million Marks (156.2 units of account) on social welfare for 440,000 displaced coal and steel workers in the six countries. Loans from the Community for industrial reorganisation totalled 250 million units of account between 1960 and 1971.

Hans-Josef Strick

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 September 1972)

The forgotten Community

It is an — almost — forgotten Community, the European Coal and Steel Community, the twentieth anniversary of which was celebrated in Luxemburg on 19 September. It is unjust that this Community should be forgotten, since the Schuman Plan from which it arose marked the beginning of the efforts to achieve political and economic unity in Europe. But as far as fulfilling its "actual" tasks was concerned the Coal and Steel Community has often been dogged by bad luck.

It was founded as an endeavour to get to grips with the problem of the shortage of fuel and power and steel. Just a few years later the community was faced with a surplus of coal and steel which presented the member States with a tough test of their solidarity.

Not all European countries that have given themselves access to Europe's coal and steel reserves were now prepared to make sacrifices to help the mining industry in Europe.

Yet the Coal and Steel Community did great things in the face of the difficulties in adjusting faced by the mining industry. With its help 120,000 subsidised houses were built for miners. Something like a milliard Marks was made available for industrial conversions and loans were given to 440,000 needy workers in the industry.

The actual significance of the twenty-year-old Coal and Steel Community, however, lies outside the direct concern of coal and steel. It paved the way for economic and political cooperation in Western Europe and for the first time brought together those six States that were to form the EEC, the heart of the movement towards European unity.

For the Federal Republic, therefore, it had a specially important significance. It gave Bonn the chance to take part in European affairs as an equal partner for the first time since the War.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 20 September 1972)

Fewer lads go down the mines

Young people are less inclined today to become miners, according to statistics published in Essen by the coalmining industry. This country has at present only 832 apprentice miners. At the beginning of the crisis period for the mining industry towards the end of 1957 there were still 27,500 mining trainess.

As a whole there are 11,470 young people working in the mines at present, as against 47,000 in 1957. Over 7,200 young people are at present training for surface careers attached to the mining industry.

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 13 September 1972)

Full employment comes first, Union says

The trade union for workers in chemicals, paper and ceramics has issued a warning against experimental measures to deal with rising prices that could put full employment in jeopardy.

At the 9th IG Chemie congress in Bochum on 18 September the committee of the union announced wide-ranging demands to be made during collective bargaining and also came out strongly in favour of speedy ratification of the pensions law reform.

"Unanimously IG Chemie and the International Federation of Chemicals and Factory Workers' Associations (ICF) demanded limitations to be imposed on the gigantic international concerns."

IG Chemie Chairman Karl Hauenschild spoke to 380 delegates at the congress and expressed his opinion that unemployment was no way to achieve price stability. Unions would always prefer five-per-cent price rises to five-per-cent unemployment if it came to the crunch.

He criticised severely industrialists who repeatedly undermined credit policy and currency policy measures while at the same time attacking the Bonn government for rising prices.

On the subject of social welfare the deputy Chairman of the union Ferdinand Eichhorn stated that with an election coming up the only parties that could count on the support of the unions and their members were those that kept an open mind about the demands made by the working population. Eichhorn called for the pensions reform to be passed.

He criticised previous CDU/CSU-led governments and said that he could not understand how these parties could now pose as "the benefactors of the retired".

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 19 September 1972)

New look at fuel and power policy

Fuel and power policy is one of the long-term key problems of Federal Republic economic policy planning. Thus Bonn wants to work out a new concept in 1973 in which "an iota of national egoism must be involved", according to Federal Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Helmut Schmidt.

He was speaking to representatives of the economics press in Bochum, following his consultations with the board of IG Bergbau und Energie, the mining and energy workers trade union, and with representatives of the overall employers association of the coalmining industry on topical problems in fuel and power. This was the first time that Schmidt in his new ministerial role had met the leading representatives of the workers and employers in the mining industry.

He stated that this countries fuel and power must not be allowed to rely too heavily on political activities in the Persian Gulf and North Africa.

This countries concept of fuel and power supply must be agreed among trade unionists, employers and the national and local governments and must cover coal, anthracite, natural gas and oil as well as nuclear power. It must bring long-term consolidation, especially to the coalmining industry.

"We will not work out the concept among the Bonn and Düsseldorf bureaucrats," Schmidt asserted and suggested setting up a "round table conference" at which all interested parties would have a seat. Schmidt feels it is essential for this country to build up its own tanker fleet so that we shall not be so dependent on foreign governments for the supply of fuel and power.

Herr Schmidt, whose two State Secretaries Rohweder and Mommsen were also in Bochum, is in favour of doubling the miners' award from 2.50 Marks to five. Adolf Schmidt, the Chairman of IG Bergbau und Energie explained, this would actually restore the state of affairs existing in 1956 when the award was first introduced and was set at eight per cent of income. Helmut Schmidt considers the raise in the award would be sufficient to encourage sufficient miners to stay in their profession.

Without putting an extra strain on the national budget Helmut Schmidt intends to stick to the agreements made between Bonn and Ruhrkohle, as he stressed.

In the light of spiralling prices, however, representatives of the mining industry consider that 125 Marks would be a more realistic figure.

Bonn also intends to apply to Brussels for an extension of the aid given to the industry for the production of coking coal. It is necessary to reach a new agreement on the highest rate for these national subsidies for the coming year.

On the question of the specific difficulties surrounding Ruhrkohle Helmut Schmidt said: "Before the next election we shall introduce a binding Cabinet decision on the future of Ruhrkohle with a report concerning share laws."

In the first six months of this year Federal Republic miners produced 52,300,000 tons of coal, 6.5 per cent less than in the same period of last year. Dumps have grown between 30 June 1971 and 1972 by nine million tons to 13,300,000 tons and earlier this month they topped fifteen million tons. Ruhrkohle, the largest Federal Republic mining concern, cut its staff by 11,000 to 164,000 in the past eight months. Of these twenty per cent were foreign workers.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 20 September 1972)

■ FARMING

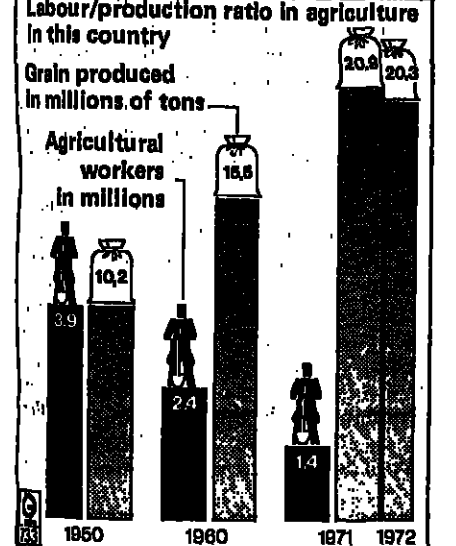
Part-time farmers break away from parent body

The position of the farmers associations and the leading organisation in this field, the Federal Republic Farmers Association, has been weakened. Their once-solid ranks are breaking up.

Those farmers who only earn a neglible proportion of their income on the land have broken away to form an association of their own. This news item caused a stir as the Farmers Association has always claimed that it is the most capable body to deal with part-time farmers' interests and still clings to this view.

But perhaps only regional branches such as those in Baden, where there have always been a large number of part-time farmers, can really claim to represent their interests as well as those of full-time farmers.

Farmers Association headquarters in Bonn have never paid them more than lip



service and the committees for part-time agriculture have not been very active in the past.

Evidence that the Farmers Association has not bothered much about spare-time farmers is provided by the fact that it was unable to reply to a question asking how many of its members were full-time farmers and how many part-time.

As the Farmers Association normally only represented the interests of full-time farmers in the past, the formation of a new organisation was inevitable. The only surprise is that it came so late despite the establishment of a Saar branch as long ago as 1964.

Full-time farmers are in a minority. The vast majority of farmers work on the land part-time. Of the 1.1 million or so farming concerns in this country, only ten to twenty per cent are estimated to operate on a profitable full-time basis.

The number of part-time concerns in 1969 were estimated at 52 per cent. On top of this come the 28 per cent of farms that operate on a full-time basis but with a production rate too low to support a family without outside income. Part-time and non-profitable full-time concerns of this type already cover 45 per cent of the area under agriculture.

The importance of these two groups has probably increased still further since 1969. "Officially between 60 and 65 per cent of farmers work part-time," a reputable farming journal stated recently. "In fact the proportion is higher. It is just that many farmers manage to conceal the true state of affairs."

"They are well-advised to do so," the journal continues. "Part-time farmers are often forced into the role of outsiders. Part-time farmers are not respected members of society. They do not belong to the green establishment and, worst of all, they do not fit in with the ideology."

This ideology states that the only farmers deserving help are "genuine" farmers of the old type who live exclusively off the land. All other farmers are thought of as indecorous competitors.

They prejudice the marketing prospects of full-time farmers, the myth goes, instead of handing over their land to these farmers to increase their acreage. They are also a temporary feature on the agricultural landscape and an evil that is to be overcome.

On top of this there is the observation that many spare-time farmers are better-off than their full-time colleagues, that they are freer and more independent. Full-time farmers seem to hold this against them.

Farmers Association president Constantin Heeremann may speak of a healthy coexistence of full-time and part-time farms but part-time farmers "are not satisfied until they have guarantees that their view becomes part of the general ideology at regional branch, local district and village level".

Agricultural problems worldwide
The decline of agricultural undertakings between 1960 and 1970 in %

Japan −12, Britain −18, USA −19, Canada −20, Switzerland −21, FRG −22, France −23, Denmark −29, Sweden −32

This is indeed all too rarely the case despite the fact that part-time farmers are important social and economic partners to full-time farmers if rural areas are not to be completely devoid of people.

They do not encourage gluts, as common belief has it, but weaken this tendency as they do not cultivate intensively. They help take care of the agricultural landscape, develop a more varied economic structure and they attain the aim of a broad dispersal of ownership and property without proving an additional burden on the taxpayer and without the need to draw up of quixotic redistribution plans.

For the spare-time farmers themselves, their dabbling in agriculture is a means of acquiring property, something they can fall back on in times of crisis and a welcome leisure-time occupation.

But official agricultural policy often obstructs them, even in those areas where tilling the land and the preservation of the landscape is no longer possible without them.

What is more, they are not represented on those organisations to which they pay their contributions along with full-time farmers, organisations such as chambers of agriculture, agricultural associations and pensions schemes. The only exception is in the Saar.

Many part-time farmers have therefore become insecure and doubt the profitability of their farms as they are not advised or supported as far as the development of modern economic structures are concerned.

The patience with which the majority of farmers have so far tolerated this situation is surprising. Whether this attitude continues will be shown by the amount of response to the new association established on both national and regional level.

Time will also show how many of these farmers resign their membership of the Farmers Association. Many of them already resigned a long time ago.

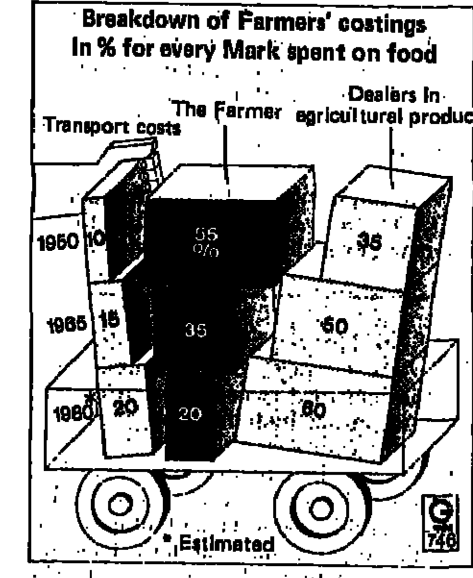
These resignations will lead the Farmers Association to the bitter realisation that they are no longer able to speak for the whole of the agricultural world. The fact that the majority now has its own mouthpiece has led to a split in the once so solid ranks of the agricultural world.

This will not be changed by the new organisation's statement that its work is not directed against existing bodies and that it only wants to fill a gap and act as mediator. But the gap is wide and the cry of schism was the first reaction to the news.

The political influence of the Farmers Association will now decrease as it will have to face the charge that it only speaks for a minority of farmers. It is no surprise that the above-mentioned farmers journal has advised the Farmers Association to bother a little more about the problems of the majority if it does not want to lose all remaining influence because of further splits. This sentiment can only be seconded in the interests of all farmers.

Klaus Peter Krause

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 September 1972)



USSR negotiates for Federal Republic grain

The Federal Republic is currently negotiating with the Russian government on supplying the Soviet Union with grain, Minister of Agriculture Josef Ertl revealed in a recent interview.

Western experts estimate that the Russian harvest will be fifteen per cent down on last year's figure of 180 million tons as a result of bad weather.

To close the threatened gap in supplies, the Soviet Union plans to buy an additional 3.2 milliard Marks worth of grain from the United States this year. The Soviet Union has already imported grain this year from Canada, France and Australia.

(Münchner Merkur, 19 September 1972)

Food and Agriculture Organisation meets in Munich

The eighth regional conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation opened in Munich on 18 September, the first time that the Rome-based FAO has ever convened in the Federal Republic.

Discussions centred around agricultural policy in Europe and the developed countries of other continents and around European plans falling within the framework of the world food programme.

The conference was attended by 28 European States, including the Soviet Union and several Eastern bloc countries, seven non-European nations, among them the United States and Japan, and representatives of national and international organisations.

Bavarian Prime Minister Alfons Goppel told the conference that it was a special distinction for Bavaria and Munich to act as host to such a large international organisation such as the FAO.

He confidently hoped for continually increasing international cooperation. Bavaria, he said, was proud that its agricultural grants law had for the first time set down specific regulations for the preservation of the countryside.

Agriculture Minister Josef Ertl stated as host that in all parts of the world the wellbeing of Man must stand in the centre of political planning and actions. "I therefore believe that our idea of agricultural policy is correct when we see it as part of a comprehensive social policy," he added.

Direct State action will always be indispensable whenever farmers are unable to solve the problems facing them on their own, he claimed. The government had already approved a programme of individual subsidies and complementary social legislation and thus taken a decisive step towards a rational agricultural policy.

Though the agricultural policy of the European Economic Community is commonly criticised, Ertl added, it is often overlooked that the EEC is the largest customer for agricultural products in the whole world, spending ten thousand million US dollars a year. As much as 5,600 million dollars is spent on imports from developing countries.

Ertl stated with satisfaction that the FAO as the UN's largest special international organisation was becoming increasingly capable of meeting the truly gigantic demands that had been placed upon it.

"It is on the right road towards completely filling its role as an international forum of agricultural policy," Ertl claimed. This had become particularly clear at the conference when dealing with problems of adaptation in the developed countries. "When seeking solutions we must all look beyond the frontiers of our countries and areas," he stated.

For the future this means that measures relating to agricultural and trading policy must be subject to greater coordination within the framework of the responsible international bodies, Ertl added.

Foreign agricultural trade must be organised with the world in mind, he demanded. The highest degree of flexibility is needed in order to adapt production to market requirements.

FAO Director General Addeke Boerma welcomed the fact that the conference could take place in a country that had made a great contribution to easing tensions on this continent.

Martin Rehm

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 September 1972)

ENVIRONMENT

Berlin Industrial Fair

As always the Berlin Industrial Fair has been a shop-window of Federal Republic industry. Non-ferrous metals, chemicals, plastics, vehicles, machinery, tools and measuring equipment, electrical engineering, atomic energy and precision engineering were all on display.

Many more examples could be listed. A total of 11,000 exhibitors were represented, of whom roughly ten per cent came from abroad. Special emphasis was attached to environmental conservation and associated techniques.

In debate with environmental specialists West Berlin Health Senator Professor Hans-Georg Wolters conceded that the fresh air of Berlin, immortalised in song, is no longer what it used to be. Between 1968 and 1971 relatively high concentrations of sulphur dioxide were registered in the city's air.

A mean annual rate of 150 to 180 microgrammes of sulphur dioxide per cubic metre of air is, Professor Wolters claimed, attributable to the sheer size of the city and the conglomeration of fires and furnaces.

On the other hand the Berlin region is less troubled by organic compounds such as hydrochloride and fluoride. Yet there can be no overlooking the fact that West Berlin's seven power stations (with an installed capacity of 1.34 megawatts and an output last year of 5,840 million kilowatts, representing an 8.1-per-cent-increase on 1970) pump exhaust fumes rich in sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere regardless of the ageing electro-filters with which they are equipped.



Bus powered by natural gas (Photo: M.A.N.)

There is nothing new about the idea of building a nuclear power station in the divided city. Why has nothing come of it? It is a well-known fact that nuclear power stations are environmentally unimpeachable and economic.

In the past the construction of a nuclear power station in Berlin involved political problems, the man mainly responsible being the American ambassador in Bonn.

In reply to a query his chargé d'affaires, Edwin M. Cronk, wrote in February 1965 that "as regards the advantages of a nuclear power station in Berlin a project of this kind has been under consideration for a number of years. True though it may be that a spectacular and positive development would be to be welcomed, it may well be more important to safeguard day-to-day peace and prosperity."

Since then the political situation has changed to a certain extent, Professor Wolters referred to existing cooperation with the GDR in sewage and refuse disposal.

West Berlin's daily quota of sewage is 480,000 cubic metres. Only twenty per cent is purified in West Berlin, the remaining eighty per cent being pumped to sewage works in neighbouring Brandenburg.

Assuming cooperation along these lines is feasible there is no reason why a nuclear power station ought not to be built along the upper reaches of the Havel, where at several points there are thinly-populated areas three miles in diameter.

The West Berlin Electricity Board at present has economic objections to the scheme, though they could be overcome by the end of the decade.

If a power station is to be an economic proposition it must nowadays have an installed capacity of at least 600 megawatts. As a nuclear power station could have to be closed down overnight comparable reserve capacity must remain available.

"At present we have only seventeen megawatts in reserve," an electricity board spokesman comments. The installation of so much in the way of additional reserves would only make sense if the new power station were jointly operated and utilised by West Berlin and the GDR.

There may be no precedent at present but why should a precedent not be set? What matters is that the air in and over Berlin is improved. A nuclear power station is the obvious answer.

Motor vehicles are also to blame for a good deal of noise and pollution, though, as the environmental journal published by the West Berlin chemical industry has pointed out.

Cars are poisoning the Earth, the journal warns, echoing similar warnings in the United States. Yet the combustion engine is here to tay, for the time being at least. Electric cars at the present stage of development would be slow and cumbersome monsters consuming more electricity than can possibly be provided.

This is not stricly speaking true. An MAN natural gas-powered omnibus has a range of 250 miles in city traffic. An electric van is capable of covering a distance of sixty-odd miles without needing its batteries recharging.

There is the "whispering" diesel engine for public transport vehicles, which is considered to be particularly sound from the environmental viewpoint.

A number of environmental conservationists are now recommending the introduction of exhaust-free zones in the city.

The sky over East Berlin is also a polluted mushroom. In the Eastern half of the city industry has been rebuilt briskly since the war, there not being the difficulty of having to ship in plant from the Federal Republic. The only environmental advantage that East Berlin can claim is that is has fewer motor vehicles to pollute the air people breath.

Otto Tappen

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 September 1972)

New ways being explored to dispose of waste

Of all the ways in which domestic waste (sewage, the contents of the dustbin and road sweepings) is processed composting has had the most chequered career in recent years.

In the first half of the sixties it looked as though biological waste disposal, by which aerobic bacteria and fungus convert the organic mass at high temperatures into humus, had made a breakthrough in this country.

Towards the end of the sixties less and less was heard of composting. A number of foreign firms that had endeavoured to gain a foothold on the domestic market gave up the attempt and domestic firms followed the trend in a half-hearted fashion.

In recent years the view current among specialists in garbage disposal in this country has been that composting is virtually a write-off as far as the Federal Republic is concerned.

Waste that is not incinerated continues and, it was felt, would continue to be carted to the nearest tip and at night sewage works inspectors would open the sluices and pump mechanically and biologically treated muck back into the waterways.

Compost specialists are partly to blame for the failure. There may be a number of compost works in this country that function successfully and have, moreover, proved that sewage and refuse can not only be treated together at no great cost but also marketed as a finished product. The Dutch have been doing just this for the past forty years.

In the course of the sixties, though, such an atmosphere of rivalry developed that no one really knew who was fighting who. Incinerators were fighting each other as well as the compost-makers, while the compost-makers were fighting each other and, of course, the incinerators.

What might be termed the mythological element has done the most damage. For many years composting was associated in most minds with the biodynamic teachings of Rudolf Steiner, which did the whole idea no good whatsoever.

What local authorities want is a means of coping with the growing amount of garbage as inexpensively and satisfactorily as possible in respect of environmental considerations.

What design and mechanical engineers at the firms that will build the plant want is a method that works. What neither of them want is an ideology. The mere suspicion of mythology in the dry world of local authority finances and blueprints automatically gives rise to mistrust.

When a number of compost-makers in dealings with local authority officials tear strips off the products of their competitors it is hardly surprising that the local officials hardly know what to think.

You and your rental agreements, towers, drums, bacteria and the like are bad enough as it is, and if you are not even agreed as to what constitutes good compost, local government officers seem to have responded, then thank you very much but we will carry on as before with incinerators and rubbish tips, which at least make sense to the intelligent layman.

The tide now seems to be turning again. Environmental awareness at times seem to reach the brink of hysteria but it has at least succeeded in inducing the authorities. MPs and members of the general public to seek new solutions.

Above all, the ideological angle seems to have declined in importance. To an increasing degree industry on the one hand and the Ministries on the other have come to realise that varying but integrated combinations of procedures need to be developed to meet the requirements of regions that are equally varied in population and industrial or agricultural structure. On occasion incineration may prove inevitable but with capital investment costs on the increase the interest in compost plant is growing. Ton for ton the investment cost is far less than the cost of building incinerators.

Large-scale cooperation could lead to a sensible combination of sewage works, compost works, incinerators, well-kept garbage tips and compost marketing processing sewage and both domestic and industrial refuse.

It is surprising that the Ruhr Water Board, which has been in existence now for sixty years, has yet to be emulated as a communal body on a regional basis that shares out responsibility for sewage treatment.

Maybe, though, the prospects of regional cooperation are better now than they were two or three years ago. The example of regional water boards shows that local authorities are capable of cooperation when tasks and the ways and means of coping with them are adequately defined.

Large-solutions are necessary not only in respect of refuse disposal. Pollution of waterways must be brought to a halt and agricultural topsoil must be kept in use.

Topsoil must be satisfactorily structured, otherwise mineral fertilisers are swilled through to the water-table and the soil will, in the long run, erode.

As agriculture grows increasingly specialised well-processed garbage compost will prove an ideal means of improving the soil, though of course it is no substitute for fertiliser.

Garbage and sewage disposal amply demonstrates that there is no partial solution to ecological tasks, and nowhere near enough research has been carried out into the ways and means of dealing with the problems involved.

Exciting new developments are in the pipeline, particularly the neutralisation tip developed by an engineering firm. Sewage and domestic refuse are decomposed together. The resulting compost is stored in layers of five to six feet and industrial waste such as a solution of sulhuric acid or cyanide compounds are sprayed on top.

These toxins are claimed to be converted into harmless compounds in the compost mass that can be stored without the slightest risk to water supplies.

Provided the present trials prove feasible on a large scale the way is open for astonishing possibilities of combined disposal of domestic and industrial waste.

The courage to try out the unusual, combined with a sober appraisal free from ideological ballast, has brought about considerable progress.

In environmental techniques in particular new methods warrant careful consideration. Environmentally and economically feasible solutions to the problems involved must be found.

Helmut Uebbing

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 September 1972)

NUCLEAR ENERGY

Scientists team up to produce cheap electric power

Research scientists at Jülich nuclear research centre have joined forces with research teams from a number of large firms in work on a nuclear reactor that will help to generate electric power inexpensively and without adversely affecting the environment and can be located anywhere, not being dependent on water supplies.

The target is to have the new reactor in operation by the end of the century. One reactor in five built between 1990 and 2010, Dr Krämer of Jülich maintains, could be a high-temperature helium turbine reactor.

Development work will cost the taxpayer a not inconsiderable amount of money. Research and development up till the juncture at which tenders for a prototype can be invited will cost roughly 250 million Marks and by the time the prototype is completed in not less than a decade's time well over a further 1,000 million Marks will need to have been invested in the programme.

At the Federal Ministry of Education and Science, which is responsible for reactor development and thus for the satisfaction of future power requirements, a number of interesting procedures have been mooted in recent years.

These procedures relate to improved decision-making on major projects and one of them is public hearings of specialists such as recently held in Jülich.

A commission appointed to examine the high-temperature helium turbine reactor project has recommended close and favourable Ministerial scrutiny but, officially at least, a final decision has yet to be taken.

Prior to the Jülich hearing, though, Minister Klaus von Dohnanyi stated that the Ministry was as a matter of principle in favour of developing a helium-turbine reactor.

What is so special about the HHT prohect? In a few years' time the construction of further conventional, water-cooled power reactors will be out of the question because the water of all suitable rivers will have reached the maximum feasible temperature.

If more nuclear power stations are built along the banks of major rivers the cooling water pumped from and back into the rivers will increase their temperature to such an extent that the balance of biological life in the country's natural waterways will go completely by the board.

Cooling towers need to be built, preferably air- rather than water-cooled. Power stations using gas rather than steam turbines are more economic. Investment costs, it was claimed in Jülich, are ten per cent lower.

The high-temperature helium turbine reactor is a single-circuit unit. The heat passed on from the fuel elements to the coolant, in this case helium, is not transferred to a steam circuit. The helium is passed straight on to the turbine.

In a high-temperature reactor metal cannot be used as a casing for the uranium fuel. Graphite is more resistant to heat. Helium is likewise more convenient as a collant and a conductor of heat. A helium turbine can also process temperatures of up to 1,000 degrees centigrade, unlike twin-circuit high-temperature reactor power stations. The unit is thus more efficient. High-temperature reactors have a further potential advantage, the availability of process heat for coking coal or direct reduction of iron ore in the steel industry. Professor Rudolf Schulten, the man behind the pebbled reactor and much of the research into high-temperature reactors conducted in this country, drew attention to a number of difficult problems that remain to be solved. The use of coolants reaching temperatures in excess of 1,000 degrees centigrade presupposes clarification in respect of transport mechanisms for fissile products among the fuel elements and in the helium circuit.

There is also a whole range of further issues remaining to be solved, including materials research, the development and trial of hot gas conduction and the development of major components in the turbine circuit.

The Jülich experts were particularly at loggerheads as to the fuel elements that

Continued on page 15

Giant telescope

Carl Zeiss, Oberkochen, have produced this giant telescope, 1.23 metres in diameter, for the Max Planck Astronomy Institute observatory in southern Spain. (Photo: Carl Zeiss, Oberkochen)

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■ THE ARTS

New Bohner ballet at Berlin Festival

KielerNachrichten

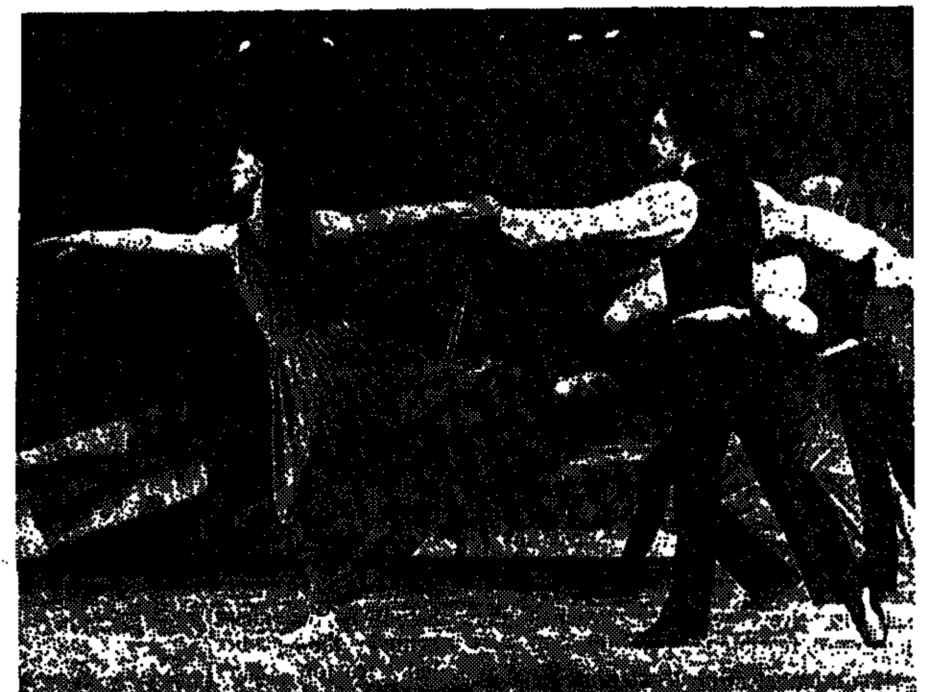
Gerhard Bohner has again composed a remarkable, strangely fascinating ballet – *Lilith* – given its premiere in the Academy of Arts during this year's Berlin Festival.

According to Talmud tradition, Lilith was the woman whom God formed out of earth in the same way he formed Adam. She was meant to be his wife but was unwilling to obey him and so fled and from that time onward raged through Jewish mythology as a child-snatching demon of the night and a seductive temptress. She can now be seen raging about on stage for fifty minutes.

The story is not unlike Pasolini's film *Teorema*. Lilith visits a family which changes under her influence and is finally destroyed because of her. Fate invades their cosy idyll and shatters it.

The parents separate and their contacts with the children gradually end. Groups begin to form and there are arguments with the rest of the family. In the end, every one is isolated. Some leave home while others become introverted and react to no outside stimulus. The old order that seemed so firm and enduring has given way to chaos.

Though Lilith is frequently shown the door, she always finds alternative means of entry. She gains sympathy when sobbing on the threshold, she appears as a seductress to the father, the sons and the daughters, she holds sway over weather and rules by means of the forces of nature. The human emotions of pity, love and fear form the family's downfall.



A scene from the Bohner ballet *Lilith*

(Photo: Ludwig Binder)

Gerhard Bohner's new ballet has as little in common with *The Tortures of Beatrice Cenci* as it has with the large number of shorter and medium-length works he composed years ago to reveal his talent.

Two of these older works were performed before the premiere of *Lilith* so that the audience was able to compare his latest work with his previous period. The other thwo ballets performed were *Pas de quatre* to the music of Jean Francaix and *Und so weiter* (And so forth).

Lilith is a freer, more humane work than the avant-garde works with their academic inhibitions or the bestial patricide horror of Tortures. It plays down the mythology that has become attached to the idea of Lilith as a principle of freedom as well as of love and perhaps of love as freedom.

Bohner has learned to adapt his choreography to the content and no longer changes the plot to suit his choreographic style. He therefore manages to make *Lilith* a work full of fluent, wide-ranging movement owing more to Martha Graham than his teacher Tatjana Gsovsky. The incessant step-by-step staccato of his earlier ballets has now been replaced by light, fast-moving sequences.

As was the case with *Tortures*, the music is by Gerald Humel and the ensemble of the Berlin Modern Music Group. Humel has composed a wild, unruly work for a ten-man ensemble on piano, percussion and electronic instruments. It whips the ballet forward with its raging tempo.

Walter Schwab was responsible for stage design. A desert of grey cloth contains a single wood-pile as a symbol of habitation and a few mirrors are scattered about stage to support the general sparkle and at the same time act as windows opening out on to the world.

Red-head Silvia Kesselheim danced the part of Lilith. The role of demon could have been written for her. She was able to give her acting talents free rein as she alternated between a slatternly femme fatale and a wretched queen of nature, a nocturnal vampire and a fawning beggar. The other dancers were excellent too. Bohner had brought them along from Darmstadt, his new home and place of work.

Reinhard Beuth

(Kieler Nachrichten, 20 September 1972)

Gruppe 47 continues to influence young writers

Twenty-five years ago, in September 1947, Hans Werner Richter invited some fifteen writers of the younger generation to the home of authoress Ilse Schneider-Lengyel near Füssen, Bavaria. They read each other excerpts from novels, short stories or poetry and discussed them critically.

This informal gathering became *Gruppe 47* which had such an extraordinary influence on the development of post-war German literature. The years of complete deforestation, as Wolfgang Weyrauch called them, were now followed by a period of intense thought.

Hans Werner Richter once described the character of *Gruppe 47*: "It did not foster men of letters but politically committed publicists with literary ambitions. Its purpose can only be explained by the collapse of the Third Reich and the atmosphere of the early post-war years."

It was the ban on the literary journal *Der Ruf* by the American military government which led to the formation of the group. Alfred Andersch and Richter had published this mouthpiece of the younger generation and their work was later taken over in different conditions by Erich Kuby. One article on this first memorable meeting in Bavaria states: "It was agreed that our new age lived and experienced differently and therefore had to write differently, that there must be a re-examination of values in order to do justice to life without resentment."

Indeed, in years to come *Gruppe 47* was a centre, a coffee house, a metropolis and a discussion group all rolled into one, as Hans Werner Richter aptly described it – and it was extremely effective in influencing literary opinion.

Joachim Kaiser, one of the critics of the group, stated that the more success its individual members had, the more *Gruppe 47* would be in danger of dissolution. Time proved him right after authors like Grass, Walser, Böll, Bachmann, Enzensberger, Eich, Heissenbüttel, Aichinger, Hildesheimer, Johnson, Höllerer, Rühmkorf and many others had been a success.

The spontaneous criticism practised at meetings of the group seemed to decide the well-being or otherwise of an author and was passionately discussed and criticised time and again.

Robert Neumann, Nossack, Krämer-Badoni and other writers turned against the group and even one of its "full-time critics", Marcel Reich-Ranicki – he watched over the intellectual and literary quality of modern German works along with Hans Mayer, Walter Höllerer, Joachim Kaiser, Walter Jens and others – pointed out that there was always something dubious about judging works of literary art.

"The beginnings of existence are also the beginnings of literature," Hans Werner Richter stated when life resumed after the collapse of 1945.

In the following years the group always attracted enemies – and not only those writers who had been attacked when reading their works to a critical gathering.

Obituaries appeared time and again announcing the death of the group and there were all sorts of crises and more or less well-intentioned advice to wind the group up.

And at the end of the sixties there was a long break in activities after the planned conference near Prague was postponed. This was generally interpreted as the final act of *Gruppe 47*.

But on 1 May this year a stir was caused by the announcement that friends of the former *Gruppe 47* had met privately at Hans Werner Richter's home in Berlin. Once again a large number of prominent writers were present – Grass, Johnson, Kluge, Weiss, Höllerer, Wohmann, Schalluck, Schnurre, Baumgart and others.

You do not have to be blessed with the gift of propechy to realise that *Gruppe 47* will continue to exist. It many appear in a different form but it will still act in the same spirit as moved its founders 25 years ago.

W. Alexander Bauer

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 19 September 1972)

Dada play vintage 1923 entertains Düsseldorf audience

A scandal fifty years ago, it now entertains the public – that's the way art goes. A select audience packed into the small Theatre in Düsseldorf at midnight, expecting to see something exquisite.

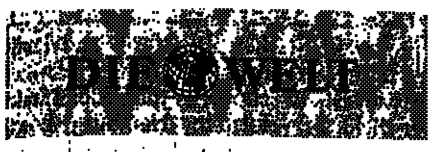
They were not disappointed. Daniel Spoerri, the inventor of Eat Art, presented Tristan Tzara's *Gasherz*, a work previously unknown in this country but which was a sensation and caused fights in the audience when it was first performed in Paris in 1923.

Spoerri translated the work years ago with Claus Bremer. Düsseldorf then now gave him a chance to produce this work by one of the co-founders of the Dada movement.

"There's nothing to understand," Tzara's text claims. Spoerri refers to the play in the programme as a quite banal, minor love drama. It is a Dadaist word mobile for six actors playing the parts of Eye Brow, Neck, Mouth, Nose and Ear.

The emotions of these parts of the body, or to be more accurate parts of the head, are obviously in a state of conflict, though on a level divorced from everyday rationality.

They include beauty, love, boredom and jealousy but with pictures que phraseology – quoted from memory – such



SüddeutscheZeitung

as "grey words for the flower of you lung", "the birds at the lighted end of a cigarette", "I said what I've got to say long ago to the hatbox" and "G... is a nervous tic of the imprecise dune".

In an era of pop art the whole work appears as an attractive absurd poetry happening of great antique value. And Spoerri has produced it with perfect taste.

He has the text performed twice with the same actors. First of all the scene is two bar tables. The work is then repeated as a ballet of heads in a surrealist space representing one large head. What may have appeared first of all as semi-intoxicated tomfoolery to be laughed at becomes at another level a phantastic metaphor of nonsense.

The heads of the four speakers appear from below with a soft thud or through sections of the stage that have already been smashed open. The head of one of the female speakers always appears stage right.

One speaker changes his position frequently and shouts from his hiding place among the spotlights. This arrangement, though created by negligible means, has an astonishing visual and acoustic intensity.

At the end of the second part all the actors rise from their positions in their underclothes and the final passage "This will end with a fine wedding" is converted in one single place in a drastic and quasi-mythical manner.

The twin celebration only lasts a total of 35 minutes, just the right length. The actors made their appropriate contribution. Oswald Fuchs, sometimes playing Neck and sometimes Eye, seemed to get most pleasure out of it in view of his compact animal charm.

The audience at this midnight party were greatly amused and their applause was enthusiastic. Connoisseurs enjoyed what Daniel Spoerri served up this time – but following a recipe of Tristan Tzara – but this time their peasure was visual and acoustic; it was not the pleasure of the palate normally evoked by Spoerri's famous Eat Art.

Heinrich Vormweg

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 September 1972)

■ THINGS SEEN

William Turner exhibition in West Berlin

DIE WELT

The Berlin Festival has announced an exceptional event in the field of creative art – the William Turner exhibition in the National Gallery featuring some 120 of his oil paintings and watercolours.

One of Werner Haftmann's long-cherished dreams has therefore come true – but it was only possible because the Berlin National Gallery made a deal with the Tate Gallery of London.

A large section of its Caspar David Friedrich collection was sent to London for the exhibition of this German Romantic in the Tate in return for the loan of several Turner paintings.

Visitors flocked to the opening in numbers that had never been seen before in the new National Gallery. Turner is represented in few collections in his country. Apart from a number of works loaned from Boston and Philadelphia, the paintings come exclusively from Britain and mainly of course from London. The Tate Gallery and the National Gallery (to which Turner bequeathed his works) supplied most of the works.

The Berlin exhibition therefore provides a unique opportunity to study the phenomenon of William Turner on the Continent even though the Tate was unwilling to allow some of his most famous paintings make the journey.

The Burning of the Houses of Parliament, painted in 1835, is actually one of those works which is not usually loaned. But an exception was made in this case and one of the two versions is exhibited in Berlin in the immediate vicinity of the two *Flood* pictures of 1843.

The main emphasis of the exhibition, at least as far as the oil paintings are concerned, lies on the grandiose, late period after 1830, as Haftmann had wished. The exhibition is meant to show Turner's great significance for the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, via Monet to Wols and Mark Rothko.

William Turner appears to us today as a lone precursor of abstract art, as one of those great colourists who gives the means priority over content. During his lifetime he was either misunderstood and attacked or honoured and admired – John Ruskin was in the forefront of the latter trend.

He kept his experiments with light and colour under lock and key, many of them until his death, and among his immense legacy of twenty thousand works he considered many paintings to be unfinished. One of the most peaceful pictures in the exhibition is his *Evening Star*, painted around 1830. One third of the picture is taken up by land and water, a ruddy violet horizontal strip with a tiny figure in the foreground.

Two thirds of the painting belong to the brightly-lit, apparently transparent heavens. There is already a suggestion of a feature common in Turner's later works – the objects he painted seem to be composed of colour and light and not vice-versa.

This impression is taken to its extreme in one of the latest of his works to be exhibited in Berlin – *Venetian Feast* (1845). The agglomerations of light and mist reveal schematic figures arranged in groups with a golden yellow central figure reduced to an aureole of light.



Turner's *Llantory Abbey, 1796*

(Photo: Katalog)

The earth, heavens and lagoon merge into a single, golden green hue with only slight variations. As in most of Turner's late paintings, colour is placed in the service of emotional sensation. It dies not evoke a copy of nature but, to use Haftmann's words, a counterfeit in response.

These fluent applications of colour lead in a straight line to Monet with his haystacks and cathedrals. But while Monet as a whole is more lyrical, the dramatic tends to predominate in Turner's broad scenes.

Natural forces, the play of the elements, disasters at sea, fire, tempest and flood, stretching to the visionary depiction of the Biblical Flood, are ever-recurrent themes. There is often a combination of a number of disasters.

In view of his dramatic state of mind, Turner preferred the extreme landscapes of nature, the sea and mountains, and in this he is related to the German Romantics and Caspar David Friedrich in particular.

Man subjected to the amplitude and infinity of creation is featured in both these artists' works. In Friedrich's painted universe he is never lost, however tiny he may be.

In Turner's work he is sometimes sacrificed to the raging elements. *Slave-traders throw the dead and dying overboard – a typhoon rises* is the title of a seascape dominated by blood red and purple hues that can now be seen in Boston.

Quite apart from his at that time revolutionary painting technique, William Turner was far more than a landscape painter. We have already mentioned his pictures of the Flood entitled *Shadows and Darkness*, *The Evening of the Flood*, *Light and Colour* and *Morning after the Flood*.

These works were influenced by Goethe's theory of colour. A striking feature are the forms of light circling around a focal point, surrounded on one occasion by zones of dark shadow and black swarms of birds and on another occasion appearing as a glowing yellow disk surrounded by whirling ruddy-brown masses. This whirling motion, also strongly emphasised in the snowstorm picture, suggests a symbolism and visionary power that begs direct interpretation.

Haftmann summed up Turner's position in his age in one sentence: "His fame is his posthumous fame." To appreciate this statement, an observer must look at Turner's own development from an imitator of old topographical engravings, easily adopting even styles alien to him, to the revolutionary and much-criticised artist from the first thirty years or so of the nineteenth century.

The catalogue issued by the Berlin National Gallery contains informative articles by Andrew Wilton, Henning Bock, Ursula Prinz, William Vaughan and Andreas Haus, exploring various facets of the artist's work.

This impressive exhibition, worthy of inclusion in the Berlin Festival, indeed the only one taking place under the organisers' auspices, is the result of cooperation between the new National Gallery and the New Berlin Art Society. The Turner exhibition will be open until 6 November.

Lucie Schauer

(Die Welt, 20 September 1972)

Düsseldorf's Kunsthalle presents Ad Reinhardt exhibition

Gertrude Stein, the American grandmother of concrete poetry, once wrote the famous line: "A rose is a rose is a rose." One of her fellow-countrymen, painter Ad Reinhardt, sets out his artistic beliefs in similar vein: "Art as art is nothing but art."

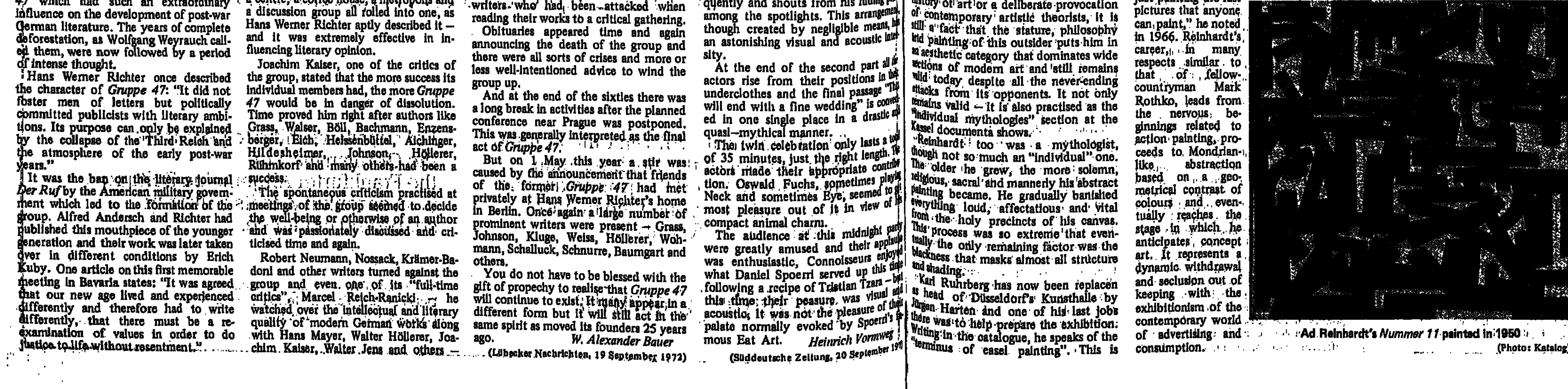
The first European review of the life and works of Reinhardt, who died in 1967, is accordingly one great hymn to the autonomy of art – which is rather unfashionable in an age always insisting that *l'art pour l'art* is nothing more than a bourgeois illusion.

But whether the Ad Reinhardt exhibition in Düsseldorf's Kunsthalle is no more than an archaic period in the history of art or a deliberate provocation of contemporary artistic theorists, it is still a fact that the stature, philosophy and painting of this outsider puts him in an aesthetic category that dominates wide sections of modern art and still remains valid today despite all the never-ending attacks from its opponents. It not only remains valid – it is also practised as the "individual mythologies" section at the Kassel documenta shows.

Reinhardt too was a mythologist, though not so much an "individual" one. The older he grew, the more solemn, religious, sacral and mannerly his abstract painting became. He gradually banished everything loud, affectatious and vital from the holy precincts of his canvas. This process was so extreme that eventually the only remaining factor was the blackness that masks almost all structure and shading.

Karl Ruhrberg has now been replacen as head of Düsseldorf's Kunsthalle by Jürgen Harten and one of his last jobs there was to help prepare the exhibition. Writing in the catalogue, he speaks of the "terminus of easel painting". This is correct. Reinhardt's pictures become purer, emptier, more absolute and gloomier until they eventually dissolve all structure in ascetic monochrome.

It is indeed a terminus, represented in the solemn pathos of the apocalypse. Art is the monk-like negation of everything concrete, of all outline and colour. It is also the self-denial of personality. "I'am just painting the last pictures that anyone can paint," he noted in 1966. Reinhardt's career, in many respects similar to that of fellow-countryman Mark Rothko, leads from the nervous beginnings related to action painting, proceeds to Mondrian-like abstraction based on a geometrical contrast of colours and eventually reaches the stage in which he anticipates concept art. It represents a dynamic withdrawal and seclusion out of keeping with the exhibitionism of the contemporary world of advertising and consumption.



Ad Reinhardt's *Nummer 11* painted in 1950

(Photo: Katalog)

People criticising Reinhardt for his "bourgeois" aesthetics of autonomy should not overlook another, most unbourgeois aspect of his work. He combines beauty not with the cult of individualism but with the anonymous, the depersonalised. This aesthetic system is more pre-bourgeois than late-bourgeois.

Mathias Schreiber

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 16 September 1972)



■ EDUCATION

Joint commission makes proposals for study reform

Academic study is a process of orientation as well as one of learning and practising. As far as these factors are concerned, academic study can be rationalised in much the same way as working procedure. It is said, rightly, that the main thing is to learn how to learn. This process must of course begin at school.

Where universities are concerned, rare mention is made of the need to learn how to teach, even though this would be equally justified. The difficult task of incorporating the increasingly rich and extensive research findings in the teaching and learning process is not given much public attention.

University teachers, left to their own devices, have long been unequal to the demands imposed by the constant increase in knowledge and material and this is all the more true for individual students.

The public is more likely to react to catchphrases such as the shortening of courses or the introduction of the study year. Urgent proposals of this type by the Joint Commission for Educational Planning have met with widespread approval, especially from the political and economic sector.

But the caution expressed by those affected and their representatives is in stark contrast to this mood of approval. University teachers and students have rarely been so unanimous as they are now on this detailed question of university reform. Their mood ranges from scepticism to complete rejection and they have made a number of counter-proposals.

The Commission itself has pointed out the new problems arising from its proposals. It anticipated for instance an important objection of university teacher representatives. The Commission wishes to see the increased teaching burden of university teachers heeded when its proposals are put into practice though the "rational use of existing capacities" it speaks of refers to accommodation, equipment and installations, not to professors.

Abolishing the semester in favour of connected periods of teaching and learning each lasting nine months will mean an extra two months' work a year and, the Commission believes, increase "learning concentration".

There will be fewer interruptions, resulting in greater and more profitable continuity. Courses will be standardised as far as length and demanded performance is concerned. The inclination to learn will be increased by compressing demands and perhaps even by the threat of expulsion when the specified length of studies in exceeded. In his way the Commission hopes to prepare for future university reform. This goal should be achieved by 1975.

Whatever shortcomings these plans may have, we should be pleased that the reform has not taken the opposite direction, the direction of those who dream of university entrance examinations and a system of exams to eliminate anyone not making the grade.

This is not the place to speak of "regulated periods of study". These do not even exist in many subjects. The Commission has touched upon a delicate issue as many subjects cannot be regulated in this way.

The increased teaching burden on university teachers could be a greater evil. The Assistant Lecturers Conference has pointed out that the more emphasis placed on teaching will be detrimental to research.

Teaching will therefore be robbed of the decisive impulse of being incorporated in research. The fear that researchers could turn their backs on the university has now received some substance.

More students can be sent through the university machine in the same time. It will take them a shorter time to obtain the academic qualifications for their future profession – who can complain about that?

Assuming that the staff problem could be solved, would we not be faced by other shortcomings? People affected have rightly pointed out that the bottlenecks as far as installations are concerned are found in the first semesters.

It is not the advanced or long-term students who cause universities worry. Reform proposals to increase the number of students will not rob them of lecture-hall places (they hardly need these anyway) but it will cost them laboratory places and hospital space.

Increasing the amount of university buildings and installations is much more important than the solutions proposed. The Commission knew this. But the most important point of all is the reform of courses of study and examinations – what has become known as internal university reform. This is also the sphere where rationalisation has some meaning but also its limits. The restrictions now aimed at will one day have to be re-examined.

Faced with this situation, those responsible ought to take to heart the findings of research conducted by the University of the Saar. Long-term students and those who break off their studies are often found to be of better quality than successful students.

It can be seen once again that research into learning processes is only in its infancy. We must take care not to introduce rationalisation measures imposing intolerable burdens, killing off quality instead of encouraging it. Where study is concerned, the time factor seems to be a commodity that cannot be arbitrarily subjected to norms.

Gerhard Fauth

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 September 1972)

Television for schools started in the north

DIE WELT

Norddeutscher Rundfunk and Radio Bremen began their regular television broadcasts to schools in the Federal States of Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg, Lower Saxony and Bremen on 15 September.

The programmes form part of a large-scale two-year experiment to test the effectivity of schools broadcasts. It is planned to equip ten per cent of the schools in the transmission area with colour televisions during these two years.

The project is based on a contract signed between the two broadcasting companies and four northernmost Federal states on 12 October 1971. Under the terms of the contract the broadcasting companies plan and produce the programmes in consultation with the education ministries of the Federal States. The broadcasting companies pay for production and transmission while the ministries cover the costs of equipment, aids and accompanying material.

The first programmes to be transmitted will be fifth and sixth-year mathematics, work theory for children at their eighth year at school and English for those in their seventh year. A political education course is in preparation.

The broadcasts are being produced as part of a programme involving the use of media other than television.

(Die Welt, 15 September 1972)

Teacher supervision better than TV, educationalist maintains

Some people expect a lot from "fully-automated" schools. Television, radio, films, tapes and teaching aids are intended to ease the teachers' burden. This trend seems obvious and few people have questioned the efficiency and success of these methods.

Die Deutsche Schule, a periodical issued by the Education and Science Trade Union, has now discussed an investigation conducted by Dr Werner Glogauer of Augsburg College of Education. Its negative findings are calculated to cause a stir.

Two hundred schoolgirls of about twelve years old took part in this experiment. Glogauer divided them into two equal halves. The experimental group watched schools broadcasts about essay-writing while the control group received the same information from a teacher. The lesson was based strictly on the contents of the television programme and the linguistic methods used there.

The two groups were also subject to the same conditions. The essays were written at the same time of day. It was found that the essays written by the group who had been given the information by a teacher were far better than those of the other group.

The essay was called "And the End of the Story?" It was about a boy called Franzl who finds a poodle that has escaped from a circus and feeds it dog-biscuits. When his friend comes along with a lead, the dog jumps over it artistically and the two boys realise it has been trained.

They make the poodle perform its tricks time and time again. One bystander becomes mistrustful and realises that the dog cannot belong to the boys. He threatens them, seizes Franzl by the shoulder, only to lose hold of him. Franzl runs away, closely followed by the poodle. The schoolgirls now had to make up the rest of the story.

The schoolgirls in the group taught by the teacher wrote longer essays. Nine of the schoolgirls in the experimental group were unable to end the story while this was the case with only two of the girls in the control group.

Twenty-two of the girls in the experimental group wrote only ten sentences – only eleven of the girls in the control group were so brief. Sixty-five of the girls in the experimental group wrote a long essay, compared with 83 in the control group. Twenty-six per cent of the girls in the control group wrote their essay in the form of a dialogue while only eleven per cent of the experimental group did so.

Girls in the experimental group obviously found it hard to detach themselves from the filmed story and the fascination it exerted. This is the main reason for the clear superiority of teaching by person as opposed to teaching by television.

The film restricted the imaginative powers of the girls. Those in the experimental group found a total fo sixteen different endings, compared to the 23 found by the control group. This is [illegible] per cent more.

Sixteen per cent of the experimental group provided imaginative and possible endings compared to 35 per cent in the control group. This is a difference of nineteen per cent in favour of the control group.

Many of the essays plainly demonstrated the influence of television programmes, especially crime series. One girl changed the story into a real crime story. The poodle caught a criminal and saved Franzl's life. In another essay Franzl and the poodle lived for a while with a tramp who later turned out to be a circus clown.

Pupils are not encouraged to write longer, more imaginative or more lively essays by television, whatever the producers of schools broadcasts may assume. Instead the opposite effect is obtained.

Television broadcasts do not contribute much towards logic either. Girls in the experimental group violated the rules of logic 57 times more than those in the control group and offended against chronology seventeen times more.

The investigation supplied proof that television broadcasts did not provide any stimulus to essay-writing. The essays of the experimental group were considerably shorter than those of the control group especially as far as the endings were concerned.

Glogauer notes in conclusion that the results of his investigation demonstrate the advisability, from a economic viewpoint as well, of studying the effectivity of educational media before permitting their use. Contemporary enthusiasm for all technical innovations make them appear better from the very outset – erroneously. The work done by teachers obviously must not be sneered at.

Gerhard Weise

(Der Tagesspiegel, 13 September 1972)

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■ MEDICINE

New developments in spare-time surgery for joints

Surgeons once used to fight shy of operating on inflamed joints but surgical treatment of joints damaged by chronic polyarthritis and arthrosis has become increasingly common in recent years.

Rheumatologists and surgeons working together obtain the best treatment of joints affected by rheumatic damage – they depend on each other in this field. The best results and shortest treatment periods can be achieved where both specialists work under the same roof.

Cooperation of this type is unfortunately still very much in its infancy in this country. A department of synovectomy is planned at the new rheumatic clinic in Wiesbaden and a temporary surgical and orthopaedic department has been attached to the Bad Bramstedt rheumatic sanatorium.

The best conditions are to be found in Basle's rheumatic hospital, Switzerland, as it also incorporates the orthopaedic and surgical clinic. Patients at Zürich University Rheumatic Hospital have to be transferred to the surgical clinic if they need an operation.

Round-table talks on the possibilities of using surgery in the treatment of inflammatory and degenerative diseases of the joint were conducted under the chairmanship of Dr Mielke, head physician at Wiesbaden Rheumatic Hospital, during the Therapy Week at Karlsruhe.

Another head physician, Dr Gschwend of Zürich, described synovectomy as an effective addition to drug treatment and a valuable preventive measure. Surgery should be conducted in cases of primary chronic polyarthritis when chemotherapy had not reduced swelling and the danger of progressive degeneration arises, he said.

Dr Tillmann of Bad Bramstedt reported at length on this operation. The synovium, the smooth moist membrane lining the joint, is removed when damaged in order to interrupt the immunological self-supporting process of inflammation.

All pain and swelling abates after the operation and relief is often felt in joints that have not been operated upon. Relapses occur in between five and ten per cent of cases and doctors must then pay careful consideration to whether there is any point in repeating the operation.

The earlier the operation takes place and the better-preserved the joint function is, the less risk there is of the operated joint becoming stiff. Close cooperation between rheumatologists and surgeons is particularly important in deciding the right time for the operation. The possible successes of the usual basic treatment must be borne in mind but it must also be remembered that operation should take place as soon as possible.

Spare-part surgery is today of particular interest where joints are concerned. Most experience has been gained in replacing whole hips, a subject dealt with by Professor Brussatis of Mainz.

The artificial joint which has gained general acceptance today consists of a spherical head made of a chrome and cobalt alloy (protasul 1) which is extraordinarily resistant to friction and compatible with body tissue. This apparatus is firmly cemented on to the femur by means of a methacrylat synthetic. A socket made of the synthetic polyethylene is also attached. Early movement without strain is particularly important in the initial post-operative period.

This method has been used for about the past twelve years. The results can be described as extremely good, as far as any judgment can be passed after such a short period. It is still not known however whether or not the artificial joint will gradually become looser as time wears on.

Professor Mohing of Göggingen feels that there is also an increasing trend to replace knee joints in suitable cases. However, the need for an operation of this type must be weighed up carefully as the risk of post-operative necroses and infections is particularly great as a result of the knee joint's position directly under the skin.

If the spare part has to be removed later for this reason, the only remaining solution is arthrodesis. But as the femur and tibia both have to be shortened by a number of centimetres to fit the artificial knee joint, the leg is that much shorter in the event of arthrodesis after the removal of the spare part.

As that is detrimental to its later functioning, there is a tendency today to replace only part of the knee joint if it is stable to any degree. Metal places have proved their worth in this type of spare-part surgery, Professor Mohing reported.

Under this method only the inner lining of the knee joint is replaced. A metal plate looking something like a quarter-circle is cemented on to the femur. The inward side of the head of the tibia is replaced by a synthetic block made of polyethylene. Previous experience with this type of spare-part surgery gives rise to hope for the future.

As the replacement of damaged ligaments in rheumatic knee joints by spare parts has only resulted in disappointment replacing the whole of the knee joint is recommended in cases of lateral instability. The first experiments with Guepard's metal joint have been encouraging.

Recently there has been an increase in experiments to use spare-part surgery in hand and arm joints. Dr Stellbrink, a head physician from Hamburg, pointed out that the hand is not only important in earning a living or taking care of oneself. A damaged hand can also have serious mental consequences. Elderly women in particular suffer in this way.

Orthopaedic surgery on the hand therefore must prevent deformity and reconstitute the hand. This cannot be done by operating on the joint – the tendons and their sheathes must also be operated upon in most cases.

Greater use has been made of spare-part surgery in this field too in recent years. Gschwend has been encouraged by his work in Zürich replacing finger-joints with silicon rubber.

Silicon rubber is however too weak to stand up to the strains imposed on the elbow joint. Dr Gschwend has achieved promising results by replacing elbow joints with a new Swiss metal joint.

So far medical technicians have been unable to construct an artificial joint for the shoulder. The difficulties involved in attaching it to the shoulder blade have proved insurmontable.

But there is not so much call for spare-part surgery on the shoulder. Because of the mobility of the shoulder blade arthrodesis of the joint when in a suitable position permits adequate movement.

Dr Miehlke drew delegates' attention to the ethical questions facing doctors deciding whether or not to replace joints with all the considerable risks this involves. It must not be forgotten that where younger people are concerned this is a choice between life in a wheelchair with constant nursing and supervision or the chance of being able to move about and take care of oneself for ten or twenty years with an artificial joint.

Doctors should always take this calculated risk even though they are unable to guarantee success. Dr Gschwend told of a former patient with stiff hip and knee joints in both legs. He had managed to restore the patient's mobility by replacing all four joints.

Finally, Dr Brussatis reported on experiments in Russia to transplant complete joints taken from corpses. The hip and knee joints taken from dead people are deep frozen at a temperature of between minus sixty and minus seventy degrees for at least thirty days and if possible for as long as six weeks in order to cut out the immunological danger adequately.

The Russians have so far given 88 patients complete hip joints though where the knee is concerned only the head of the tibia and some of the smaller joints have been transplanted.

Adequate mobility and recovery was achieved in 64 per cent of the cases and the results were acceptable in a further sixteen per cent of cases. The outcome of twenty per cent of the operations was poor, mainly because the ligaments and capsules could not be transplanted and the joints tended to become loose. The danger of infection is also high. On the whole, the Russians are rather cautious about recommending joint transplants.

W. Cyran

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 September 1972)

Urogenital TB increases

The number of people contracting tuberculosis of the uro-genital organs is on the increase. A report published by the medical journal *Deutsches Ärzteblatt* states that about thirty to forty per cent of non-pulmonary tubercular complaints affect this area.

"While all other manifestations of tuberculosis are on the decrease, fresh cases of urogenital tuberculosis are being reported more frequently," state the authors of the report, Professor Karl König and Dr Klaus Haubensak of the Urological Hospital in Homburg.

The report stresses that urogenital tuberculosis can be cured in its early stages by chemical treatment and possible additional "conservative" surgery without any loss of organs.

But it is difficult to diagnose the disease in its early stages as there are few symptoms. Most of these patients are in good physical condition. The main responsibility for tracking down this type of tuberculosis in its early stages lies not with urologists but with general practitioners, hospital and sanatorium doctors and the health authorities.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 September 1972)

Doctors discuss benefits of sport

Competitive sport was the main subject discussed at the 24th Therapy Congress in Karlsruhe. Some seven thousand doctors attended the congress. 195 medical man addressed the audience.

Intrinsically, the fields of competitive sport and medical thought are that all that far removed from each other. They are both contemporary phenomena and to a certain extent a focal point in our productive society for both doctors and the rest of the population.

The 195 speakers were a record number for a medical congress. Doctors have always paid special attention to the voluntary physical efforts of Man. On the one hand peak performance always has its appropriate psychological or mental basis and on the other it indicates the amount of strain the body can take – an important factor considering the stresses of modern industrial society. Competitive sport as an ally of industrial medicine was the leitmotif of this year's Therapy Congress in Karlsruhe.

"Sport should feature in the list of health measures to be recommended to all healthy people, almost all the ailing and very many people undergoing recuperation," Professor Bock, head of Tübingen University Hospital and president of the Therapy Weeks, claimed when opening the congress, which was also attended by Professor Ishibashi, president of the International Society of Japan, as a sign of the international solidarity of doctors.

"I agree with the old saying that idleness weakens, exercise benefits and excess damages," Professor Bock continued. The possible damage resulting from competitive sport is far outweighed by the benefits.

Professor Hollmann, head of the Cologne Sport Academy, stated that competitive sport could not damage a healthy heart. Sportsmen who died of heart attacks had always had a weak heart.

Professor Bock warned sportsmen against taking drugs to improve performance and attain a peak that the body would not have been able to achieve on its own. The way to increase performance is by systematically intensifying training, he said.

Sportsmen must not become guinea-pigs doped with every conceivable pharmacological aid, he added. Sport overcomes nervous insufficiency caused by a disturbed balance between central and peripheral coordination. It is dangerous for the young to follow erroneous beliefs and dope themselves to stupidity.

Training conducted regularly from childhood onwards helps a person remain fit to an advanced age. The increase in performance can still be measured in his fifties. After that it varies from individual to individual.

Bock criticised the shortcomings of school sports. There is first of all the medical side – doctors often excuse children from games even when there is no pressing need. There is also the educational aspect – it is not always possible to have an hour of games a day and even break-time gymnastics and sports are not encouraged.

But Bock found many positive aspects to sport as well – sport for diabetics; remedial gymnastics; early post-operative exercises (even after having a child); telemetric movement training for heart patients whereby doctors can supervise the functions of the heart via a transmitter and receiver; and lastly the Paraplegic Games that recently ended in Heidelberg – their founder, Sir Ludwig Guttmann, was knighted for his work in this field.

Peak sporting performances fascinate as they indicate the possible achievements of the human body in their attempt to tolerate and extend the limits of endurance, Bock stated.

Peak performance is a human achievement embodying progress as well as the sacrifice and denial that can help others in the medical field. But everyone should try and be fit in order to remain young.

Bernhard Knoche

(Handelsblatt, 20 September 1972)

■ OUR WORLD

Ballroom dancing – a review from court dancing masters to beat

Dancing lessons in 1920 were the product of middle-class late romanticism. The dances that were learned surrounded by Biedermeier furniture have changed little in the past hundred years – the waltz, polka, quadrille, polonais, cotillon and the like. Along with dancing deportment was also a teaching monopoly of dancing teachers.

The profession, like society, was divided into classes. The top of the ladder, court dancing masters and ballet masters, gave instruction to the upper middle class and the nobility – a typical literary reference to the dancing master is Knaak in Thomas Mann's *Tonio Kröger*.

The second group offered its services to middle class townfolk. The lowest grade of dancing masters had for pupils the working classes, serving girls and farmers.

But all grades of dancing master had the same aims in teaching, middle class dances and middle class etiquette. The dancing master made his contribution to the social scene of the nineteenth century.

But about 1920 everything changed. Since about 1910 Afro-American dances invaded Europe, dances such as the tango, ragtime, the onestep and the foxtrot. From 1918 onwards the shimmy became popular and "isolation techniques" were introduced. The old dances disappeared. The old dancing masters were helpless before such developments. They became in the main superfluous with the arrival of the new exponents of dancing for social occasions – the dance clubs where amateurs mainly practiced. The majority



Young people learning to dance (Photo: tanz-illustrierte)

of people learned to dance at the local dance hall. The teachers were not professionals but, like the gigolos in the dance halls, pure amateurs.

Quite naturally the more traditional dancing masters looked upon these newcomers not only as a threat to traditional styles of dancing but also to their very livelihoods.

Dancing master Albert Nicolaus complained: "These new teachers of modern dancing sprang up like mushrooms all over the place but they harmed the art of dancing. They scoffed at what we had learned after years of training. These new teachers attracted the young people to their methods so the old dancing master lost his pupils and was out of a job."

Mainly because of economic need regional dancing associations met in Essen on 11 September 1922 and formed the German dancing teachers association (ADTV), which, until 1930 was dominated by the more conservative elements. However the more "talented wild ones" were allowed admittance on the grounds that German dancing schools could only hope to survive if they accepted modern forms of social dancing.

By 1930 the so-called "wild ones" had won and from then on modern ballroom dancing dominated the ADTV. Following the lead made in Britain the association accepted the slow and quick foxtrot, the tango and the slow waltz.

In 1933 a relapse threatened. The Nazis ordained that ballroom dancing of all sorts was un-German. And from this threat sprang up the *Einheitsverband Deutscher Tanzlehrer* to save the slow and quick foxtrot, the slow waltz and the tango. They also tried to maintain in popularity the polka, the quadrille and similar dances.

Paradoxically it was during the years 1933 to 1939 that modern ballroom dancing really became established in Germany.

Germany, along with Britain, was a leading country in competitions. Reinhold Sommer, head of the dancing teachers association, was responsible for many of these developments over those thirty years.

After the Second World War there were mainly only regional associations, but in 1949 representatives of these associations met in Bad Kissingen, the traditional meeting place for ADTV conferences. Representatives from Saxony, Thuringia and Brandenburg were at this meeting. In 1950 the ADTV was founded anew and it began to function on 1 January 1951 – but without representatives from the GDR.

The newly founded association instantly made contact with Alex Moore in Britain, the leading exponent of the

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

British style of ballroom dancing. Paul Krebs revised the Viennese waltz and this was included as the fifth dance in championship programmes. And during the fifties Latin-American dances were introduced to dancing studios in this country. And in 1965 beat came to the fore.

It is clear that ballroom dancing has made considerable strides in this country when it is remembered that in 1962 G. Hädrich of Hamburg suggested the formation of an international dancing teachers association and so the ICBD was formed. Currently under president Hädrich the ADTV is the largest association of dancing teachers on the Continent.

Helmut Günther

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 September 1972)

Proving himself

Stark naked with a plastic bag hung round his neck a man swam across the river Saalach from Austria to the Bavarian river bank. A police officer who happened to be out with his dog saw the man crossing the frontier by the river and took him into custody.

The officer found in the plastic bag all the man's clothes and a loaded pistol. At the local police station the officers on duty heard with amazement what the man had to say.

He said he was 34 and the senior physician in a Hamburg clinic. He claimed that he had swum the ice-cold waters of the Saalach to prove to his wife that he could get over any frontier.

But he had not expected to meet a police officer with his dog.

A police checkup proved the man's story to be correct. He was a Hamburg doctor on holiday with his wife in Salzburg. His papers were in order and he had a licence for the weapon.

(Münchner Merkur, 14 September 1972)

Home-made cash

My father can print his own 20-Mark notes," the 11-year-old Bremen schoolboy told his friends in the school playground. And he showed them notes that his father had indeed printed.

When the crime squad heard of the father's activity they arrested the 34-year-old master printer, who, allegedly, after hours used the printing presses for his own purposes.

He admitted that he had printed 250 notes using high quality Japanese paper.

(Die Welt, 14 September 1972)

True to life!

Just a few hours after a television camera crew had filmed a scene for a television series involving a bank robbery the real thing took place in a Bremen suburb.

Three men entered a bank not more than fifty yards from where the filming had taken place and threatened bank employees and customers with a revolver and a knife.

They made off with 30,000 Marks in a plastic bag but seven minutes after the holdup they were captured by a police patrol car.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 20 September 1972)

Oldenburg Pony Show

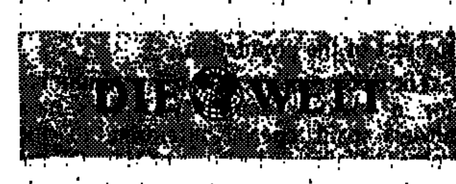
The pony is the little man's mount equivalent to the Volkswagen Beetle," the auctioneer said. "You only have to let it stand out in the rain and it cleans itself, just like a horse."

More than 300 ponies arrived at Oldenburg to take part in the Pony Show, ponies of all kinds, classes and colours arrived. And if the breeders and officials present are to be believed children in the Federal Republic are asking their parents more and more frequently if they can have a pony of their own, a mount for their size.

The sellers come from all sectors of society, professors and ordinary working people, from cities and from new housing estates and even through adults are prepared to ride a pony.

Those who assumed that among the 'little people' it was only all a matter of fun would have been in for a very big surprise at the Oldenburg Pony Show. No matter what the problem, faults in lineage, breeding, fertility, offspring or sales sensible remarks were made all round.

"We have to breed what our customers want," a representative of the breeders



association said, adding that it cost about one thousand Marks to raise a pony foal. The activities that have been seen at auctions show clearly that the "garden dwarf image" that ponies used to have no longer prevails. Welsh, New Forest and Island ponies are now cross-bred with bigger stallions. Children who used to grow out of ponies in much they same way as they grew out of their clothes can now have animals that grow with them, as it were. It's as simple as that.

An indication of how important the business of riding has become in this country is indicated by the fact that in a year something like two milliard Marks are spent on riding accessories, for both horse-riding and the smaller sport.

According to breeders a three-year-old pony for children can fetch something like 2,000 Marks. But this figure is in the main a sum that is from the land of dreams. At an auction such an animal is knocked down for something like 800 Marks, and only occasionally is the real price bid. An Arab stallion, Faruk, did fetch 5,250 Marks. This was a smack in the eye for local breeders for Faruk was imported from Yugoslavia.

Buyers are no longer interested in charm and daintiness. They are looking for quality in the animals they buy for leisure riding.

So many of the animals brought to the Oldenburg show were castrated on the advice of experts because their progeny would have been considered to be too small.

Castrating these animals had a lot to do with the reduced prices that were offered.

Klaus-Werner Caro

(Die Welt, 19 September 1972)

■ SPORT

Football league season begins to empty terraces

The most important sporting event over the weekend following the Olympics was unquestionably the start of the tenth Federal league football season.

It was a premiere fraught with queries. Would the fans, starved of football for so long, swarm back on to the terraces in their thousands? Would the clubs have anything special to offer them?

What forecasts could be made from the first weekend of the football season for the next World Cup, due to be held in this country in a bare two years' time?

The answers to these questions were without exception somewhat depressing. The football provided was hardly a sight for sore eyes; at most grounds the games were pedestrian to a degree. The fans did not come in their thousands either, which augurs ill for the World Cup competition.

Let us go into details. Instead of the quarter of a million fans hoped for a mere 123,000 spectators turned up to see the nine games, the worst turn-out so far in the history of the Federal league.

One in five paid his gate-money at the Berlin Olympic Stadium, dating back to 1936, where Hertha BSC, the local club, lost to Fortuna Düsseldorf. This performance will cost the Berlin club good money. The fans are not going to bother watching home games when they are lost, especially at the start of the season.

Stuttgart and Düsseldorf are two instances that illustrate the illusions harboured by football in this country. The weather on 16 September was gorgeous in Stuttgart, yet only 17,000 fans turned up. The crowd may have been 23,000, another estimate. No one quite knew. Either way, the fixture was a financial loss as far as the club's treasurer was concerned.

VfB Stuttgart played at home against 1 FC Cologne. It was a half-hearted affair in which first Cologne, then Stuttgart had the advantage, Cologne playing better football, the Stuttgart players keeping tirelessly on the move.

The home team eventually won 3-1. Will a larger crowd turn up for the next home fixture? Hardly likely. The game was decidedly amateurish.

Yet the Stuttgart stadium is being rebuilt to accommodate a crowd of 80,000. Why, one wonders. For the World Cup, of course.

The same question could well be asked in Düsseldorf, where an expensive model stadium has been newly built to accommodate 70,000 spectators. Düsseldorf feels that the new stadium will stand up to comparison with the Olympic Stadium in Munich.

It could be, of course, that the home team will attract more spectators from surrounding areas such as the Ruhr if they continue to be as successful as they were in Berlin. This, though, is no more than a possibility and what will happen if Fortuna Düsseldorf go through a lean period? A brand-new stadium will remain empty.

Long gone are the days in this country when fans streamed to the football grounds of a weekend to watch and support their local club. In England, Scotland, Italy, Spain and Portugal the crowds still come, even though tickets are expensive. But cost what they will, the demand is still there.

In this country the crowds shrink year after year and all that clubs can think of to offset the vanishing fans is an increase in the price of tickets. The price is paid by the fans who have remained faithful to their old club.

In Stuttgart's Neckarstadion, for instance, an uncovered seat on the one side costs fifteen Marks. Yet fans who invest the money can hardly see a thing. At four o'clock on a Saturday afternoon the sun blinds them from the other side.

Fifteen Marks is six and a half pfennigs per minute of play. That is not too much for good football, but it is a good deal too much for an hour and a half's sunbathing.

The mass media, above all television, have obviously been the death of football in this country. Saturday afternoon sport on TV is, to all intents and purposes, football and boasts the highest viewing figures.

They may not see the whole game but they are shown the seven or eight highlights there are in any one game – headers, penalty kicks, near misses and, of course, goals.

For a mere 7.50 Marks a month, the cost of a TV licence, the football fan can be sure of seeing not four but twenty Federal league fixtures expertly edited. Why bother going out and braving the elements when one can enjoy it all in the peace and quiet of one's own drawing room?

The logical conclusion would be for the TV companies to employ specially selected teams of their own to keep the viewing public amused.

What is so paradoxical about the whole business is that three or four teams in the country play such good football that no one is interested in the rest any more. Yet good players can only emerge from a large number of mediocre ones, and this is as true in this country as it is anywhere else in the world.

Viewed in this light, the prospects for the 1974 World Cup are none too good. It could well be that by then the number of first-rate teams has declined still further, with the result that the Federal trainer, Helmut Schön, is at a loss for player material.

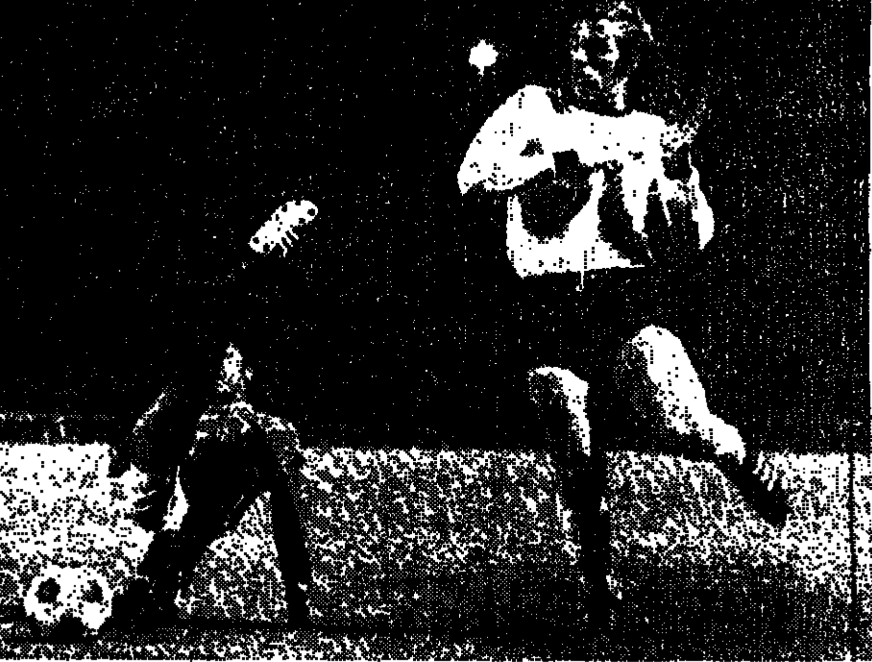
Maybe we will escape by the skin of our teeth in 1974 for all that, though. This is not to say that this country will possibly win the Cup. The most that one can hope for is that the fans do actually go to the trouble of watching World Cup fixtures from the stands and terraces rather than preferring to stay at home and see the action on TV.

Were the fans really to stay at home it would be a terrible slap in the face for the organisers and for football in this country.

It is hard to say what developments professional football will undergo in this country after 1974. The trend between 1963 and 1972 is certainly no cause for confidence or rejoicing.

Richard Kaufmann

(Deutsche Zeitung, 22 September 1972)



Footballer of the Year

Günter Netzer, 28, has been voted Footballer of the Year by 684 sports journalists. Gerd Müller and Franz Beckenbauer came behind Netzer in the number of votes cast for them. Netzer plays for Borussia Mönchengladbach and is a regular national eleven team member. (Photo: dpa)

FA clubs three million strong

Following a membership increase of roughly 150,000 last year the number of people paid up as members of football clubs affiliated to the Federal Republic Football Association for the first time passed the three-million mark. The DFB has 3,084,901 members.

The number of clubs affiliated increased by 103 over the previous year to a total of 16,641. The largest state associations are Bavaria, with 3,846 clubs and 597,685 members, Lower Saxony, with 2,194 clubs and 403,632 members, and Westphalia, with 1,528 clubs and 331,085 members.

(Die Welt, 20 September 1972)

Cheap electric power

Continued from page 9

are preferable for the HHT. Which is best, Schulten of Jülich's pebble bed or the fuel blocks marketed by Gulf General Atomics of the United States?

This question is to no small extent an economic one. Can this country afford to continue with its own development work and run the risk of subsequently failing to market its own product elsewhere in the world.

At the technological level, it was claimed in Jülich, the pebble bed has certain advantages over other forms of fuel element. This point nevertheless remains to be fully clarified.

Georg Hartmut Altenmüller

(Der Tagesspiegel, 23 September 1972)

Good swimmers need to be tall, Hetz maintains

Ted Graef of the United States, the Olympic gold medallist in the 200 metres backstroke at Tokyo in 1964, stood six feet five. With the exception of Shigeo Fukushima of Japan, a tall man by his own country's standards, all the finalists were over six feet tall.

Ernst-Joachim Küppers of this country was also six foot three and a half. The backstroke swimmers at Mexico and Munich might equally well have been basketball players. Backstroke specialists have come to be the giants among swimmers.

"In future backstroke specialists who want to stand a chance of international success will have to be at least six foot five," US coach Peter Daland, whose wife is Ingrid Feuerstack, the breaststroke swimmer from this country, maintains.

As yet the "giants" predominate mainly in the backstroke event, long arms and legs being a tremendous advantage at kick-off and turn-round But the tendency is for height to be increasingly important in all swimming disciplines.

A Hans Fassnacht, who is five foot eight, may still be able to hold his own but in the none too distant future swimmers of his height will be the exception rather than the rule and automatically trail behind the rest of the field.

"Walter Mack is technically outstanding butterfly swimmer," coach Gerhard Hetz

Frankfurter Allgemeine

says, "but he is probably at least a couple of inches too small to really make the grade against international competition."

Walter Mack is five foot six and a half. "With his outstanding technique Mack would be bound to break all records were he only six foot six," Hetz reckons.

Hetz will hear nothing of the argument that most contemporary first-rate breaststroke swimmers are not particularly tall. "Leverage is what counts in the final analysis, even in breaststroke and butterfly. What a five foot eight swimmer is capable of at present is neither here nor there. What matters is what the same swimmer would be capable of if he were only six foot four."

Small wonder that coach Hetz sets great store by crawl swimmer Werner Lampe. Lampe is six foot four, and many European and American coaches share Hetz' confidence in the prowess of the Olympic bronze medallist at Munich.

Gerhard Hetz holds a degree in physical education and has regularly found that sports specialists' views confirm his own on this point. He certainly is banking on the "giants" in swimming.

It is, he feels, merely a matter of spotting the right-sized talent, for example Roland Matthes of Erfurt, another six foot two gold medallist at Munich.

In practice what this means is that coaches will in future first have to single out youngsters tall enough and then sift them for talent, much as basketball talent-spotters have to do. When both height and swimming talent are right, training can begin.

Karl Morgenstern

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 September 1972)